The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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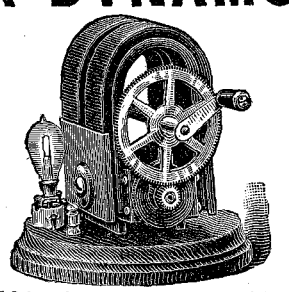

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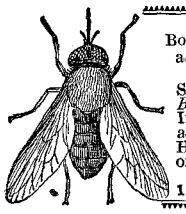

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"The Best Books of the World"

MAX MÜLLER'S Fine Word on What Is Really Immortal in Literature.

The memorable attempt made by Sir John Lubbock, a few years ago, to draw up a list of the Hundred Greatest Books of the World, spoke to a deep human passion, the desire and the aspiration to know the best that has been written and spoken by those whom Emerson calls "the great voices of Time."

But when it came to actually making out such a schedule of "the chiefest hundred," it was found there was almost as great a variety of opinion as there were books to name. "What is called gold by one critic is called rubbish by another." No two could agree.

When Mr. Ruskin got through putting his pen "lightly through the needless —and blottesquely through the rubbish and poison of Sir John's list," there was not a great deal left of it. Prof. James Bryce, whose fine work on "The American Commonwealth" makes his opinion of especial weight with us, wished to change almost every other line. The poet Swinburne made an entirely different catalogue, and the late William Morris contrived yet another that was wholly and wonderfully his own. Bookman and statesman, theologian and man of science, poet and novelist, each had his special set of names without which such a list would not be worth a moment's while! So that if we were to add up all the books proposed in the course of this very interesting discussion, for this "indispensable library," we should have not a hundred but much nearer to a thousand "greatest books."

MAX MÜLLER

The plain fact of the matter is that it is impossible to draw up a list of no more than a hundred volumes, which will not contain works which many readers find dull, flat, stale, and unprofitable, while leaving out many others that might prove the inspiration and the delight of their lives. Moreover as much harm may result from making a fetich of the "classics," as from neglecting them altogether. How many, of this day, have in their heart of hearts thanked gruff old Doctor Johnson for bluntly calling "Paradise Lost" a tiresome book?

Altogether the sanest word in the whole discussion,—so it appears to us as we have recently been re-reading the little volume in which the various letters and lists were printed—were spoken by Prof. Max Müller, of Oxford, when he said that he found "few books that are supremely great from beginning to end," while on the other hand there are parts and passages or whole poems which he could read "again and again, wondering more and more, every time, how one man could have written them."

"If I were to tell you," wrote the great philologist, "what I really think of the 'hundred best books,' I am afraid you would call me the greatest literary heretic, or an utter ignoramus. Take the greatest poet of antiquity, and if I am to speak the truth, I must say there are long passages even in Homer which seem to me extremely tedious. Take the greatest, or at all events one of the greatest poets of our century, and again I must confess that not a few of Goethe's writings seem to me not worth a second reading. There are gems in the most famous, *there are gems in the least known of poets*, but there is *not a single poet*, so far as I know, who has not written too much, and *who could claim a place for all his works* in what might be called a Library of World Literature.'

Nothing, it seems to us, could better describe the practical futility of Sir John's attempt; and nothing on the other hand could emphasize more strongly at once the need and the high value of what Max Müller calls a "Library of World Literature,"—such a library as would bring together, in a convenient number of volumes, and at a price within the purchasing power of the great reading public, just those single poems, those great parts of great books,—"the immortal part of their most mortal bodies,"—which, as this famous Oxford critic says, "make it seem a very miracle that they could have been composed by man."

It is because Charles Dudley Warner's Library, now in course of publication, seems to us to meet just this need so fully and so finely that we have given it the welcome we have. We have already spoken in terms of high praise of this splendid work, but as the succeeding volumes come from the press, our estimate of its value deepens and broadens.

It goes almost without saying that such a work would be next to valueless if it were not done by the most trained and competent hands. Mr. Warner's new work, however, edited by the ablest, and its critical portions written by the most eminent of living men of letters, is a truly notable enterprise,—one of the most important literary undertakings of the century. This new library, we feel more and more, must rank in the field of literature as does the Encyclopedia Britannica among the arts and sciences.

First of all, it accomplishes vastly more than could any set list of the Hundred Best Books, even though such a list were to be extended to a thousand. It is not mere dry compilation, it is very far from being simply a "collection of literature." It does indeed give, in a most marvelous way, that which is most vital, enduring, and truly representative of the greatest writers, not merely the poets and novelists, but the historians, the dramatists, the biographers, the essayists, the men of science, neglecting not a single field in the wide domain of printed books.

But this, great and valuable service as it is, seems almost subsidiary or at least but a part of the broad purpose of this monumental work.

Mr. Warner's chief idea, apparently, has been exposition and interpretation; he has given not merely what we wish to read of an author's own writings, but he has prefaced all of these by a remarkable series of critical articles, telling the circumstances under which the book was written, giving a succinct but often wonderfully vivid story of the author's life, so to speak fixing his place in the perspective of time, so that we read not at random, but with our path lit from the lamps of the widest and finest scholarship of the day.

The plan of Mr. Warner's library seems to us simply ideal. We can conceive of no other possible means by which such a vast variety of the most interesting information and the most entertaining reading, together with such a clear and splendid sweep of the whole field of literature since writing began, could be compacted or in any wise gotten into thirty convenient volumes. And in the execution of this bold and entirely unique design, Mr. Warner has gathered together such an array of eminent men,—the foremost writers of Europe and America,—as was, we believe, never before engaged in a single literary undertaking.

The latest volumes of the new library which have come to our desk renew and emphasize the impression we first gained, that so fine is the work here being done it will never be done over again in so magnificent a way. It is, in a word, the one standard work which gathers and preserves for each individual or family "that which is best and most enduring in the literature of the world."

But after all this is said it seems next to impossible to convey any adequate idea of the true literary charm and the deep human interest of every paragraph and page we have yet read, and the amazing range and variety of the subjects covered. We conceive that this superb Library, when complete, will form the finest and most instructive History of Literature that has yet been published in any tongue. It will be not only a delightful introduction to the study of any literature or of any individual author, but at the same time a vast repository in which one may delve endlessly, finding anew each time something to pleasure and profit the passing hour. Even a general knowledge of all that is contained in this really epochal publication would afford a liberal education of the broadest kind. It is a whole university in itself.

When we consider that this new library is a work of permanent and lasting value, comprising the very essence of the world's best literature, together with the finest criticism upon that literature obtainable from modern writers; and when, moreover, we consider that it is possible to secure the thirty volumes of the completed Library for a third of what any set of "a hundred best books" would require, we believe it is just to say that Mr. Warner has done a greater service for the reading public of his time than any other living man. The Library is indeed the ripe fruition of a long and rarely useful life, and will constitute such a monument as any one, however eminent, well might envy.

We call the attention of our readers to an important arrangement which has been made by the publishers with The Harper's Weekly Club of 91 Fifth Avenue, New York, whereby it becomes possible to obtain this superb treasury of literture at a reduced price and upon very easy terms. For the purpose of introducing and advertising the Library, the publishers have arranged to furnish the Harper's Weekly Club with the first edition of the work, printed from the new, clear plates. The first edition is always to be especially desired, and in view of the very considerable saving which can be made in this way, we advise the readers of this magazine to write promptly for particulars. The Club now forming will, we understand, practically exhaust this desirable first edition, and it will be well, therefore, to take advantage of the publishers' offer at once.

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The Standard Dictionary.

Questions Answered.

C. S., Madison, Wis.: "Allow me to call attention to the following omissions from the Standard Dictionary: ***Bridgework***, a common dental term, is omitted. ***Overestimate*** is printed as a single word, tho in a citation from Phelps, immediately following, it is hyphenated as a compound; and ***practise*** is spelled with an 's,' yet in quotations from Shakespeare and Sargent "c" is substituted for 's.' Are these things intentional?"

(1) The phrase ***bridge work*** to which "C. S." refers is not one to be defined by a dictionary, for it does not apply specifically to any particular profession or art. Masons and engineers, as well as other artisans, do bridge work when they contrive bridge-like structures. Because dentists have appropriated a term common in the arts and sciences is not sufficient reason to give it a specific definition; besides, bridge work is self-explanatory. (2) ***Overestimate*** is printed as a solid word by the Standard Dictionary in accordance with the method of systematic compounding which this dictionary has adopted. The Standard does not edit the quotations it inserts. The language, both as regards spelling and compounding, is in every case that of the author. (3) The orthography of ***practise***, so spelled, is that preferred by the Standard Dictionary because etymologically the word is derived from the Old French ***practiser***. In the Dutch, Swedish, and Danish, the spelling is the same. The ending *-tise* is well supported in English, for we have ***mortise, treatise,*** etc. The orthography of the quotations cited is that of the author.

E. B. C., Modesto, Cal.: "I am a constant reader of THE VOICE, and as such would like you to publish in its columns the reason why your fine Standard Dictionary pronounces ***Arkansas*** otherwise than Ar'kan-saw. When was the state admitted into the Union, and was it admitted with a pronunciation of Ar-kan'zas?"

We must ask "E. B. C." to refer to his Standard Dictionary once more, and to examine again the definitions of ***Arkansas***. Had he exercised more care when first consulting this work he would have been able to answer every one of the queries he makes. The Appendix of Proper Names of the Standard Dictionary is the work of experts through out. It is the most accurate and complete appendix ever made, and contains concise information on nearly 50,000 separate items. Being brought to date, it is more valuable than the most modern cyclopedia issued.

The spellings and pronunciations of the geographical names in the Standard Dictionary are those adopted by the United States Board on Geographic Names. The name of the state of Arkansas is pronounced ār'kŭn-sō by the Standard Dictionary (see p. 2116, col. 2, def. 3). The state was originally admitted into the Union as ār'kŭn-sō in 1836; it seceded in 1861, and was readmitted in 1868. All this the Standard gives and more, for is records the area and population of the state, at well as its capital.

W. S., New York City: "All English cyclopedias and dictionaries hitherto published are defective. One day I hunted for details of two characters in Anthon's Classical Dictionary—namely, ***Cleomenes*** (the sculptor of the Venus dei Medici), and ***Phryne*** (the Athenian courtezan), but found neither. A few days ago, in an American Encyclopedia, I hunted for ***John Trumbull***, a renowned artist, but he was not to be found under ***John,*** but, without conspicuous marking, in the body of ***Johnathans.*** I should much like to own one of your Standard Dictionaries if it is more thorough than its predecessors."

There is no doubt but that "W. S.'s" remarks may be taken as presenting deplorable carelessness on the part of certain dictionary and cyclopedia editors. Expert labor is the only reliable labor for books of reference. The Standard Dictionary is the work of 247 specialists who were combined to produce the completest dictionary ever published. Its definitions have been indorsed by the press of the English-speaking world, and it has been heralded as the "Pride of Literary America and Admiration of Literary England." Had "W. S." added the Standard to his reference library he would not have needed to waste valuable time by referring to Anthon's Classical Dictionary not to find what he sought. The Standard gives concise biographies of ***Cleomenes*** and ***Phryne,*** as well as of ***John Trumbull*** (under ***Trumbull***), and daily it proves its value in some new walk of life.

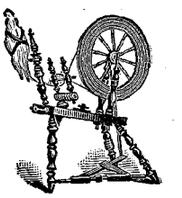
J. R. B., West Epping, N. H.: "In a newspaper I found recently the phrase ***potomaine poison,*** but I can not find the meaning of it from my dictionary—the International. Will you please give the proper definition of the word in your column Questions Answered?"

If when consulting dictionaries readers would make sure of the orthography of the words they desire to investigate one would seldom hear the well-known phrase, "It's not in the dictionary." "J. R. B." did not give sufficient attention to the spelling of the first word in the phrase whose meaning he sought. ***Ptomain*** is the correct form, and the definition reads:

> ***pto'ma-in,*** ***pto'ma-ine,*** } tō'mā-in, -in, *n. Chem.* An alkaloid, usually poisonous, derived from decomposing or putrefying animal matter: also, in the usage of some writers, one of the similar alkaloids produced by disease-germs in the living body. [< Gr. *ptōma*, corpse, < *piptō*, fall.] ***cadaveric alkaloid‡.***
>
> The word *ptomaine* . . . was originally employed to designate those products of putrefaction which give the reactions of vegetable alkaloids, and have more or less of a poisonous action. W. D. HALLIBURTON *Chemical Physiol.* ch. 13, p. 169. [L. G. & CO. '91.]

The definitions of the Standard Dictionary are clear, comprehensive, and scholarly—this is the opinion expressed unanimously by the Press of America and England.

Spring-Time AT The Linen Store



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The Literary Digest

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

CAN THE NEW TARIFF BE MADE "RETROSPECTIVE"?

THE feature of the new tariff bill (passed by the House March 31) which seems to have excited most popular interest is the proposed experiment of making the rates of duty in the bill, when finally enacted, applicable to all imports after April 1. The text of the amendment by which this so-called retroactive or retrospective tariff levy is promulgated reads as follows:

"SECTION 27. That all articles mentioned in the several schedules of this act, which shall be imported into the United States between the first day of April, 1897, and the date of the passage of this act, and which were not purchased and directed by the owner to be shipped for importation into the United States by any citizen thereof prior to April 1, 1897, shall bear the same duties to be charged upon similar articles in this act, and such duties are hereby made a lien on such articles wherever and in whatsoever hands found, except in the hands of persons holding them for final consumption, and having no purpose to sell or part with the same or any part or product of the same, and except also in the hands of persons shown to have obtained such articles without notice of the provisions of the act; and any person, not a final consumer or holder without notice having obtained an interest in or possession of any such article or articles, so subject to duty, as a common carrier or warehouseman, shall be liable for the payment of such duties thereon, and the same may be recovered, with interest, but without penalty, in an action or suit by the United States against such person or persons in any district or circuit court thereof. And all persons liable under this act for such duty or any part thereof, in respect of any shipment, cargo, or lot of any article or articles, may be joined on the same action for recovery without regard to mutuality or nature of interest or defenses, and such joint or several judgments or decrees may be rendered therein, including the enforcement of any such lien as justice and equity may require. In every such case the process of the court in the district where the action or suit is brought, and where one defendant resides, and is served, shall run to and may be served on any defendant in any other district. It is hereby made the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to prescribe and enforce suitable regulations to carry out the provisions of this section, including the retention in the bonded warehouses of the United States or any other place where such goods are deposited of samples of such goods until required for evidence on any such trial."

This tariff novelty gives rise to the liveliest kind of discussion. A number of well-informed Washington correspondents doubt the Senate's concurrence in the scheme. Many metropolitan journals insist that the plan is impracticable of application, industrially and politically pernicious, and unconstitutional. On the other hand Chairman Dingley defends the equity of the principle involved in it, and other members of the ways and means committee claim that this line of action has been taken in good faith with belief in its constitutionality.

Chairman Dingley, according to the New York *Journal*, does not profess to know whether the Senate will concur in or whether the Supreme Court will uphold this provision. He is thus quoted:

"While this retroactive provision adopted by the House has been naturally criticized in many quarters as unwise, if not unconstitutional legislation, yet it must be conceded that the principle which underlies it is equitable, for articles like wool that are now ordered with a view of getting them in during the weeks in which the Senate may be considering the new law, are mainly those purchased on speculation—that is, with a view of getting them in before the increased duties shall take effect, and selling them in the market at the prices made by the increased duties, thus putting into the pockets of the importers the duty which ought to go into the Treasury. While no one blames importers for endeavoring to take advantage of proposed changes in legislation, no one ought to blame the Government if it endeavors to protect itself at the same time.

"For example, it is proposed to place a duty of 11 cents per pound upon clothing wool, and every one knows that the effect of such a duty under the conditions of wool production in this country will be to increase the price of wool in this country after it goes into effect very nearly to the extent of the duty. Now, ought an importer of wool in equity to be permitted, if the Government can prevent it, to pocket that 11 cents per pound, which was intended for the Treasury, and then sell his wool after he gets it in, under the new market, for 11 cents a pound additional?

"If any candid inquirer will stop to think he will see that it is the duty of Congress to endeavor to give the Treasury the benefit of that 11 cents per pound on wool rather than the speculator. Whether the provision will accomplish that remains to be seen. It certainly will if the Senate concurs and the courts hold the provision to be constitutional. Whether the Senate will concur or not, I know of no one who has foresight sufficient to say.

"Whether the Supreme Court, in case the Senate should concur, would hold the provision to be constitutional or not, I can not say; yet the fact remains that retroactive legislation has in many cases been indulged in, and never as yet has been declared to be unconstitutional. It is sufficient to say that as good lawyers as there are in the country hold that the provision is entirely constitutional, while other good lawyers take the contrary view."

Walter Wellman, Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Times-Herald*, states the grounds taken by the authors of the plan as follows:

"General Grosvenor, for instance, says the provision is fair to every one. It serves notice upon all alike. It simply prevents speculation in the revenues of the Government. General Grosvenor is a good lawyer and he stakes his professional reputation upon the legality of the amendment. He says the constitutional inhibition of *ex-post-facto* laws has been held to apply only to crimes, that it does not apply to civil acts except in States where

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the state constitution expressly forbids. General Grosvenor points out that in the Wilson act the tax on incomes was retrospective. So was the tax on whisky. Whisky manufactured before the passage of the act and then in bond was required to pay not only the former tax of 90 cents per gallon, but 20 cents additional. General Grosvenor argued this side of the case with so much ability as to convince doubting members of the committee, and as a result the amendment was finally agreed to.

"The Supreme Court had an opportunity to pass directly upon this question a short time ago, but it did not do so. A New York merchant imported certain goods August 7, and August 8 paid the duties and took them out of the custom house. August 28 the Wilson law was enacted. By a slip in the preamble it was declared the new duties took effect August 1. The New York merchant, having paid 60 cents duties under the old law, whereas the new rate was only 50 cents, sued for a refund. The lower court decided in his favor. When the case reached the supreme bench that court refused to pass upon the constitutionality of the act, but decided the appeal upon the intention of the legislature. It clearly having been the intention of Congress to place the new duties in force August 28, as the court discovered from a history of the legislation, it decided against the importer. But in its opinion the court quoted from one of its former decisions these words: 'The words in a statute ought not to have a retrospective application unless they are so clear, strong, and imperative that no other meaning can be annexed to them, or unless the intention of the legislature can not be otherwise satisfied.' The inference from this, it is held, is that express retroactive legislation will hold good.

"One of the best lawyers in the Senate spent some time to-day [March 30] looking up this knotty question, and he came to the conclusion after a careful study that the ultimate adjudication of the matter, if one be had, will turn entirely upon the court's view as to whether or not importers have vested rights under a tariff law—vested rights which the general welfare can not destroy. The decision generally appears to be that there are no vested rights where the general welfare is interfered with. In his treatise on the interpretation of statutes Endlich says: 'Altho there is no positive rule of law against the retrospective rate, enactments which authorize the imposition of rates and similar burdens on the inhabitants of a locality have been held not to authorize with express words the retrospective charge.' Here, again, is the inference that the legislature may in express terms establish retrospective rates of duty."

Most of the New York papers without regard to politics attack the scheme. *The Journal* (Dem.) calls it "a piece of stupid and ruthless tyranny." *The World* (Dem.) styles it "a great, big bluff." "This extraordinary proposal to put a law into operation before it is enacted threatens the entire business of the people with chaos." *The Commercial Advertiser* (Rep.) declares: "The whole scheme is unjust, unwise, and impracticable, irrespective of its legality. The Republican Party can not afford to shoulder the responsibility for such an innovation."

A Legal Plan.—"The law, . . . is that the courts will not construe a statute as retroactive unless the legislature makes clear its intention that it shall be retroactive. When that intention is made clear, as it is in this amendment, the courts, in default of a constitutional prohibition, are bound to respect and enforce the intention of the legislature. There is no constitutional prohibition. The confusion of retroactive civil legislation and *ex-post-facto* penal legislation is simply the exhibition of the illiterate shade of yellow journalism. Even Boy Bailey was careful not to attack the amendment as unconstitutional. *Ex-post-facto* legislation is inhibited as providing new punishments for crimes between the dates of commission and conviction. Retroactive legislation is a not uncommon incident of all legislation. Thousands of war veterans and their families in the country to-day are the beneficiaries of the retroactive pension legislation of the late '70's. So no importer will be wise to assume that he can defend in the courts the suits authorized by this amendment to be brought for the collection of the new tariff duties on all goods imported after to-day, April 1. If the Senate accepts the amendment it will be law, and it will remain law."—*The Press* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

An Unwise Innovation.—"Are two contradictory laws in force at one and the same time, the Wilson act and the Dingley 'bill'? Furthermore, if the Dingley bill is constitutional with respect to its retrospective feature, what limitation is there upon the retroaction? Why could not Congress make the duties apply to all importations since August 28, 1894, when the Wilson act went into effect? Similarly, what is there to stop or stay a free-trade Congress in passing a retrospective law placing numerous articles on the free list and bankrupting the Treasury by a provision refunding the duties which have been paid on such articles? And if the Republican goose can take advantage of the retrospective scheme why can not the Democratic gander? The plain truth is that such retrospective legislation, even if constitutional, is mischievous in the extreme. It is un-American and repugnant to all our traditions. No political party should attempt to inaugurate such a dangerous policy."—*The Ledger* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Philadelphia.*

Proposition Will Fool Nobody.—"The laws of trade, like the laws of nature, never collide with laws of congresses or parliaments without driving the latter to the wall. No method could be taken more certain to create indignation and humor against the bill than this retroactive experiment. Retroaction in law is contrary to natural justice. The feeling against it can not be argued away or qualified away. Resentment against it is instinctive and universal. The pending bill is stamped with oppression and absurdity by this proposition.

"Its proponents confessedly admit that the proposition will be thrown out by the Senate. They say, however, that it will depress the activity of importers and check their alacrity to heap their shelves with such quantities of goods as would deprive the Dingley bill, when a law, of full opportunity at once to be effective. Bosh! Business is not a boy. It is not scared by a ghost. It is not frightened by a threat, when the threat is confessedly an empty one. It does not shy at a phantom. It does not succumb to a bluff which is admitted to be a bluff. The proposition will fool nobody and will be feared by nobody. It will expose the bill itself to a ridicule which, to say the least, statesmanship should neither court nor challenge."—*The Eagle* (*Ind. Dem.*), *Brooklyn.*

Will Prevent Importations.—"The amendment is novel in character, and meets with much opposition from the importers, of course. Its adoption by the House renders it certain that no attempt will be made, on any large scale at least, to import goods beyond the regular demands of consumers. The importer will buy abroad under the conditions imposed by the Dingley schedules. Even tho he knows the bill will probably be amended in the Senate, and even tho that body may possibly strike out this clause, he can not afford to take the risk, for the chances are too uncertain."—*The Blade* (*Rep.*), *Ohio.*

"Some severe moralists have endeavored to represent this trafficking on uncertainties as censurable. But this is an extreme view. All business is to a greater or less extent speculative. Merchants and manufacturers must almost constantly reckon with the future, and shape their dealings accordingly."—*The Herald* (*Ind.*), *Baltimore.*

"A wilder travesty of tariff legislation was never heard of. Fancy the idea of fixing a date for the operation of a law before the enactment of the measure, without any certainty that the bill will ever be passed! For in the present status of the Senate a single snap game of this sort might be sufficient to hold up the bill indefinitely. The merchants of the country can rest assured that retroactive taxation will not be enacted in this country, either directly or by indirection."—*The Record* (*Ind. Dem.*), *Philadelphia.*

"A bill which has not been passed and signed by the Executive is not a law. Hence until the Dingley bill is approved by the Executive the present tariff remains in force. The amendment, therefore, would seem to be illogical and impossible."—*The Evening Post* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Chicago.*

"As no one knows as yet what will be the duties after the Senate is through with the bill, the 'anticipatory' amendment practically says that duties shall be levied from April 1 at rates hereafter to be determined—a kind of legislation ridiculous in itself, whatever may be claimed for its constitutionality."—*The Record* (*Ind.*), *Chicago.*

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EFFECTS OF THE ANTI-RAILWAY POOL DECISION.

THE decision of the Supreme Court against traffic agreements among railroads [see THE LITERARY DIGEST last week] still holds first place in editorial discussion. Among the immediate effects of that decision have been noted, first, the formal dissolution of a number of Western railway associations and the establishment of rate-bureaus of information in their stead. The Joint Traffic Association of Eastern trunk-lines continues its organization under the decision in its favor recently rendered by the New York circuit court of appeals, and appeal has been taken to the Supreme Court by the Attorney-General for a decision on this particular agreement. The predicted rate-war does not appear to have materialized to any great extent as yet. Some prominence is given to reports of the determination of the so-called tobacco trust to cancel that part of its contracts known as the factor agreement, under which dealers in their goods were bound to handle none but trust wares. The applicability of the principle of the anti-railway decision to labor organizations comes in for a considerable share of newspaper discussion.

In the campaign inaugurated for the purpose of securing permission from Congress to pool, it has been deemed significant that the president of the Joint Traffic Association, Chauncey M. Depew, has declared that the solution of present difficulties is to be found in agreements by the roads subject to the control of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Senator Foraker has introduced a bill in the Senate to this end. In opposition to this plan it is declared that the vital point is conceded when the railroads make their own agreements from which shippers may take their chances of appeal to the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Federal courts. Both the advocates of national control and the advocates of national ownership and operation of the railroads insist that the attitude of the Supreme Court has forced their remedies for railway evils to the front.

Railroad View of Rate-Cutting.—"Each road makes its own rates. The danger of the railroad war when each road makes its own rates is that each road is informed by its traffic solicitors and by its freight men that some other road is getting its business away. The large shippers, of course, are all in league to break down rates, and now that they have become so strong and so many of them are doing business in their own cars, they arbitrarily transfer the whole of their business from one line to another. That leaves a weak line denuded of its business. A weak line is a line which is dependent largely upon through traffic and which has not much local business. These great shippers, who control anywhere from ten to twenty-five cars a day, will take all their business off this weak line and put it on the strongest line, which already has all it can do. Then the weak line is in trouble, and it comes to these shippers and says, 'Well, how can we get you back?' The shippers say, 'You can only get us back by giving us five or ten cents a hundred off from the tariff.' The weak line invariably does it.

"Then these strong shippers will have that advantage over all the small shippers. Now, that is no violation of the interstate commerce law, because that new rate will be the rate for that line, and the effect of the interstate commerce law will be that in its effort to prevent discrimination against small shippers it promotes it. The weak line is limited in its capacity. The big shippers exhaust that capacity with their freight. The smaller shippers and the shippers who are confined to the other lines pay the usual tariff for the carriage of their traffic. The result is that the big shippers on the weak line have an advantage of a discriminating freight rate in their favor under the law. The rate makes them stronger, and I have known it to give to one concern the whole of the business in that product. In other words, the freight rate has made a trust."—*Chauncey M. Depew, in a signed interview in The World, New York.*

Pay Not to be Forced on Bad Investments.—"In whatever rate-wars or demoralization or loss that happens, the shippers may get back their own or some of their own that has been paid out in excessive charges when these railroad combines, organized in restraint of trade, exacted the pound of flesh from all who could not help themselves in the past. If there are more railroads than suffice to do the business of the country, there is no reason why the people should be forced by artificial means, in the ratings of traffic associations, to pay interest in the shape of high rates on bad or unfortunate investments. . . .

"It may be that the railroads, by the lavish expenditure of money, can succeed in getting a bill through Congress authorizing them to reorganize their pools and traffic associations, but it is doubtful if any measure of the kind can be enacted that will run the gauntlet of the Supreme Court and place the public so utterly at the mercy of these corporations as it has been. A Congress that would pass such a law would live its term out, but not a minute longer. Public sentiment has about come to the conclusion that all railroads that will conduct their business on fair competitive rates will be sustained, and those that can not will have to go to the wall and be reorganized, like any other business enterprise that fails through mismanagement or misfortune."—*The Times, Kansas City.*

Alleged Discrimination by Associations.—"New Orleans has always been a sufferer from freight discriminations, and nine tenths of the trade she has lost has been due to other markets being able to secure more favorable transportation rates. This city can provide all sorts of supplies, even Western produce, as cheap as any competing market, and the local merchants sell on as small a margin as anywhere else in the world. The only thing, then, which has shut them out of many districts has been unfavorable freight rates. New Orleans has been a sufferer from he freight tariff associations, because her magnificent natural advantages have been sacrificed so as to place her merchants on the same footing as less favored communities. Altho possessing six splendid trunk lines of railroad, and water transportation of every sort, this city has not been able to dictate freight rates, nor has she enjoyed special facilities and privileges to which she was justly entitled. The tariff associations have set aside all such natural advantages, and placed New Orleans on the same footing as the poorest market in this section."—*The Picayune, New Orleans.*

Justice and Common Sense.—"It is to be hoped that the decision of the Supreme Court will lead to justice and common sense in rate-making, a matter which concerns equally the railroads and the business community. It is true that receiverships are fat berths, and true, too, that Wall Street, which makes its living out of the fluctuations of prices, profits by the wars of railroads and undoubtedly puts some of them up. The real owners, in most cases, are so far away from the managers of their properties that neither has any regard for the other. The loss is dumped upon the defenseless stockholder. But in fact there ought not to be any loss voluntarily incurred. In other lines of business the opportunity to lose is declined. The exact opposite is what they are there for. There is no reason why railroads should not also be governed by common-sense principles, and the Supreme Court in effect tells the able and well-paid managers that it is time they learned how to do the work that they are hired for."—*The Courant, Hartford.*

Pooling Should be Permitted.—"The thing to be done should be self-evident. Certainly it has been proposed in these columns with all the vigor at our command. The restrictions of the interstate commerce act against pooling rates should be removed. Railroads should then be allowed to make rate agreements subject to the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission or of appellate courts, the power of enforcement being coupled with that of approval. That the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Federal courts may have such powers under the Constitution is hardly to be denied, provided Congress is willing to enact proper legislation to that end. It is hardly necessary in this connection to quote the Supreme-Court decisions upholding the right of the national legislature to determine and to enforce rates in interstate commerce. The power is so well established that it will not be questioned. It is simply for Congress to determine whether or not that power shall be used through the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Federal courts."—*The Advertiser, Boston.*

"The Sacred Right of Contract."—"It wipes out the humbug of 'the sacred right of contract' which has been raised to shield these illegal agreements, and the corporation organs see

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this point and recognize in it the death-knell of all their false pretenses. They protest wildly against the principle. . . . There are some contracts that can never be made valid or binding. A contract to do an illegal thing is one of them, and therefore a contract in restraint of trade was invalid at common law. No one has any sacred right or other right to make a contract to do an illegal thing or to procure a violation of public policy. The State itself can not make some contracts. As decided in the lake-front cases, it can not barter away its sovereignty. This preposterous idea that a man may make an illegal act sacred by a contract is one of the most absurd propositions that was ever put before the people, and it is, indeed, a fortunate thing that the Supreme Court has administered a quietus to it. It has no proper place in law and should have no place in public discussion."—*The Sentinel, Indianapolis.*

Government Supervision the Next Step.—"For years too many of these [railroad] managers have been a law unto themselves. Obtaining as they have from Congress and state legislatures powers and privileges but little less than sovereign, accompanied by vast gifts by way of land grants and local bounties and subscriptions, they have resented and contested every effort to bring them within reasonable control. For thirty years past the struggle has been unceasing between the people on one side and the railroads on the other, and too often the spectacle has been presented of the railways defying the law. It required just such a thunderbolt as Judge Peckham's decision to clear the atmosphere and make the managers understand that they were no longer beyond the power or the jurisdiction of Congress and the courts. And the consternation they have shown is good evidence that the bolt went home. There has been some groping in the dark and some stumbling in reaching the present stage of progress, but no backward step will be taken. A few amendments to the interstate commerce law on the lines proposed by Senator Foraker will make it efficient as a means of governmental supervision, such as it was originally intended to be, and at the same time protect the reasonable rights of the roads."—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

Surface Decisions.—"The right of either corporate interests or of a labor organization to unite for purposes of resisting the imposition of terms which would not suffice to be reasonably profitable, or to maintain terms which should give either a fair return for services, are not opposed to public policy or subversive of the general good. It is only when they take advantage of the opportunity afforded by that combination to ride roughshod over others that the powerful arm of justice should stay them and protect the equal rights of those outside the organizations. The right of competition is as sacred as the right of organization. When both the employing and the employed forces realize that any other condition than that of moderation is sure to result eventually in public resentment and interposition, the sooner will business be conducted on rational lines, unions will become stronger for good, and trusts will not be offenders before the law or the word become a synonym for legalized robbery. These considerations do not pretend to deal with the legal questions raised by the recent decision, but they lie at the root of the matter, and no law or decision will be permanent until the fundamental principles are dug out from the mass of contradictions. All late decisions have only scratched the surface."—*The Post-Intelligencer, Seattle, Wash.*

The Millennium by Argument.—"It is further declared that not only railroads but all institutions which lend themselves to combinations for the purpose of maintaining a uniform scale of prices will be affected by the innovation, assuming that it is an innovation to have an already existent law sustained after it has long been abused and denied by custom. Considerable apprehension and uneasiness are felt by lumber trusts and others. They fear that they may no longer be permitted to swell their dividends by a concerted and false inflation of prices. Kerosene, for example, may come down to what it is worth, compelling the Standard Oil kings to cut short the million-dollar dowries which they had in contemplation for the next European noblemen who may wed their daughters. Then, of a truth, the millennium will be hard by."—*The Call, San Francisco.*

Lessons of the Decision.—"If it should become a question as to which roads could do business at a loss and maintain themselves the longest, we know that it is not the multi-millionaire magnates who would first succumb. A corporation strong enough to finally absorb every mile of railroad in the country could bid defiance to the anti-trust law, because it could fix its own rates without laying itself open to the charge of combining or conspiracy. The situation is a serious one to the people as well as to the railroads. The weaker roads can not be driven into bankruptcy without striking a blow at general business. It is not for the interest of the people to bring about a condition of things which would enable a comparatively small number of powerful capitalists to buy up the railroads of the country at foreclosure sale and weld them into a single corporation, or a series of corporations practically under one control."—*The Tribune, Minneapolis.*

"With one or two exceptions, no manufacturing monopoly yet formed has, so far as the law officials are aware, subjected itself to the preventive agency represented in the anti-trust law. But it should be clear that it will not be difficult to restrict monopolies at any time when the right kind of proof of their existence is adduced before the Supreme Court. In the view of the majority of the justices, the statute is enough effective if utilized as it was intended to be, and represents no more than the plain and salutary right and power of Congress to legislate on behalf of the people."—*The Journal, Providence.*

"Such organizations are unquestionably injurious to the public welfare because they prevent that free and fair competition so necessary to the establishment and maintenance of reasonable rates of transportation. Railway managers complain bitterly whenever their employees form organizations for the purpose of fixing wages or the hours of labor, but they have no hesitation in creating much more dangerous combines of their own for the exaction of unreasonable rates of traffic from their patrons. The most refreshing and encouraging feature of this particular case is the courageous independence of the Supreme Court in deciding in favor of the people, and against the most powerful combination of capital ever organized in the United States."—*The Republican, Denver.*

"This is the American way [to criticize the court]. No law is good law that does not help us, no court is an honest court that does not decide with us, nothing is true or lovely or of good report that does not minister to our selfish interests or to our self-conceit. The decision of the Supreme Court will stand on the law as it is, and the people of the country, and particularly those who have felt the grinding injustice of hostile railroad combinations, should see to it that the proposed new legislation by Congress does not give the railroad trusts any power for the restraint of trade and commerce."—*The News and Courier, Charleston, S. C.*

"No: the remedy for these evils of monopoly is not through the attempt by 'anti-trust' laws to destroy the regulation of competition by traffic agreements, pools, and the like, but by securing justice and equality for all customers as to each service through laws which require publicity for prices, forbid all secret agreements and rebates, prevent men from inflicting penalties by violence or by arbitrary fines for an assertion of liberty against these agreements, and leaving all free to make such reasonable contracts in 'restraint of trade' as the common law has long recognized."—*The Press, Philadelphia.*

"The error is not with the court, but with the Congressional policy of interference in the operation of trade laws that are outside the range of its intelligent control."—*The Times, Philadelphia.*

Labor Combinations in Restraint of Trade.—"Much of the discussion that has taken place over the effect of the Supreme Court's interpretation of the anti-trust law, on combinations of workingmen, ignores the fact that this bearing of the act has been the subject of a number of judicial decisions already. One of the first cases in which the law was applied to labor combinations came up in New Orleans, as a result of the strike of laborers and draymen connected with the transportation of cotton, in November, 1892. The United States district court was applied to for an injunction against a body known as the Workingmen's Amalgamated Council of New Orleans, which had ordered the strike, and which was held responsible for the intimidation and violence which had been used to prevent the replacing of union men by other workmen. The interference here charged was with the

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conveyance of goods from State to State and from this country to foreign countries. . . .

"It will be perceived that there were two essential elements needed, in the judgment of the court, to bring the promoters and leaders of this strike within the grasp of the anti-trust law. The first was, interference with commerce between the States, and the next, the perversion of a lawful association to unlawful purposes. In this connection Judge Billings quoted with approval the language of Chief Justice Savage of New York, in The People *v.* Fisher—a case of trades-union intimidation tried in 1835. In answering the question, what is meant by 'restraint of trade'? the chief justice said: 'The mechanic is not obliged by law to labor for any particular price. He may say that he will not make coarse boots for less than a dollar per pair, but he has no right to say that no mechanic shall make them for less.' The same point came up in the application by the Attorney-General of the United States for an injunction against the American Railway Union, its president, Debs, and some sixteen other persons, accused of conspiring in the summer of 1894 to tie up the business of twenty-two railroad lines centering in Chicago. Circuit Judge Woods, in granting the injunction, said he had no doubt but that the Sherman act, in so far as it is directed against contracts or combinations in the form of trusts, should be limited to contracts and combinations such, in their general characteristics, as the courts have declared unlawful. But, he added, 'to put any such limitation on the word conspiracy is neither necessary nor, as I think, permissible. To do so would deprive the word of all significance.' In short, the ground on which the Debs injunction was issued was, that a combination among laborers to obstruct interstate commerce differed in no sense from a combination of capitalists for a like purpose. . . .

"It had been held in a previous decision, in the Fifth Federal circuit, upon a petition of a committee of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers asking that the receivers of a railroad be directed to enter into contract with them, that a rule of that order requiring them to strike under certain circumstances was a violation of the anti-trust law. So, in the more recent case of the United States *v.* Phelan, in a proceeding to punish as a contempt of court the violation of an order of injunction similar to that issued in Chicago, two circuit judges held that the act was clearly applicable to labor combinations when engaged in obstruction to or interference with interstate commerce.

"The only new bearing, therefore, which, under the decision in the Trans-Missouri Freight Association case, the law could possibly have on combinations of workingmen would be to stamp them as illegal whether engaged in what has hitherto been called unlawful restraint of trade or not. Justice White, in his dissenting opinion, seems to think that the conclusions reached by the majority of his associates are sweeping enough to warrant this view of the matter. . . . This reasoning of Justice White's seems to be intended rather as a *reductio ad absurdum* than as a serious application of the principles concurred in by the majority of the court. On the whole, there does not seem to be in the opinion rendered by Justice Peckham anything calculated to place labor unions in any other position before the law than they occupied before. When they lend themselves to unlawful purposes, and when these purposes include interference with the freedom of interstate or international commerce, they are liable to be enjoined by the Federal courts, but not otherwise." —*The Journal of Commerce, New York.*

ANDREW D. WHITE, OF NEW YORK,
Ambassador to Germany,

WARREN F. DRAPER, OF MASSACHUSETTS,
Ambassador to Italy.

CHARLEMAGNE TOWER, OF PENNSYLVANIA,
Minister to Austria-Hungary.

H. CLAY EVANS, OF TENNESSEE,
Commissioner of Pensions.

FOUR OF McKINLEY'S APPOINTEES.

Goldwin Smith Criticizes the Arbitration Treaty.— Prof. Goldwin Smith, the historian, now that ratification of the Anglo-American arbitration treaty in some form seems to him to be assured, has written to *The Independent*, New York, suggesting the possible existence of good reasons for subjecting it to thorough discussion and for indulging in misgivings as to its probable operation. He is not certain that a universal principle will gain by being narrowed to the bounds of a special agreement between two particular governments. It is not easy, he says, to keep the objects of a special treaty of this kind entirely clear of other objects foreign to its proper purpose: "Some English journals seem naturally enough to be calculating on the diplomatic effects of the present treaty with reference to the European situation." We quote further:

"We must be content with gradual progress. It is vain to expect that strength will at once divest itself of its advantage, and consent to stand beside weakness, at the bar of an international tribunal. Nor, were this possible, would pure good be the certain

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result. International litigation would abound, and, in the absence of a supreme power to enforce judgments, might bring back war.

"Arbitration, after all, is a litigious not a friendly process and is apt to leave heartburnings in the nation against which the award is given. The resources of friendly negotiation ought first to be exhausted. Is it certain that they will always be exhausted when there is a treaty making arbitration the rule?

"It is little noticed that those who make a treaty with Great Britain have to deal, not with a nation only, but with an empire. Great Britain has a number of colonies over which she exercises little control, tho she answers for them before the world. Suppose the impression to prevail that every check except that of liability to a lawsuit, of which the imperial country would bear the cost, had been removed; who would warrant that such colonists as Mr. Cecil Rhodes and his followers, feeling that they had behind them a violent party in the imperial country, would not be tempted to do something which would lead to an angry abrogation of the treaty, leaving relations less friendly than before?"

"NEW JOURNALISM" VERSUS CIVILIZATION.

THERE appears to be something like a crusade on the part of representative journals in different countries against what is styled the "new journalism." Without strictly marking the line between the new journalism and the old, criticism is directed against what may be comprehended in the term "sensationalism." Whenever a paper is singled out for attacks as a representative of the new journalism, it usually defends itself by pointing to certain achievements in news-getting where the critics have failed, as the chief distinction between the new and the old journalism. On the other hand, it is noted that two of the leading representatives of the new school in this country have achieved the distinction of being thrown out of a number of public libraries on the ground that they were unfit reading for patrons. We quote a recent criticism on newspapers as schools of crime from the San Francisco *Argonaut*, and also make extracts from *The Daily Witness* of Montreal and the *Vorwärts* of Buenos Ayres, critics in the extreme north and south of the America continent.

The Argonaut says:

"The daily newspaper has become the most efficient school of crime and criminal methods in the world. The vicious is made to appear as a hero instead of a being to be despised and shunned. Butler (the Australian murderer) has been holding daily receptions at the city prison, and the crowds that flock to see him are so large as seriously to embarrass the police officials. He could not be more sought after were he some great benefactor of mankind, instead of a wild beast who can benefit humanity only by ceasing to cumber the earth. The pernicious influence of the prominence that has been given to him by the daily press is illustrated by the envious remark of a small boy, overheard on the street: 'Say, that Butler has a regular snap. He sits in his cell all day and gets fifty cents for just writing his name.' Boys educated to regard a brutal murderer in this light are not likely to become desirable citizens. . . .

"The excesses of the 'new journalism,' of which its exponents are so proud, periodically inspire a revolt on the part of respectable citizens, but these protests have only a temporary effect. Some time ago a number of ladies in this city inaugurated a movement to compel the newspapers to effect a reform. The prominence given to revolting details of crimes that were being perpetrated had reached such a point that the papers were no longer fit to be taken into the home. The newspapers were attacked in their most vulnerable point—merchants were requested to withhold their advertisements so long as such undue space was devoted to crime and criminals. Success crowned their efforts for a time; there was a decided improvement in the conduct of the papers, but they soon relapsed, and now they are worse than ever."

The Montreal, Canada, *Daily Witness* speaks of this newspaper era as one of mental dyspepsia:

"That newspapers form the largest factor in the education of our day will perhaps be admitted by most, but then it is fair to raise the question, what sort of education do newspapers afford? Are those communities which feed most exclusively on newspapers the best educated, or even the best informed? Are they better educated or as well as if the newspaper made less demands upon them? The fact is evident that the newspaper of to-day, through the mere force of quantity, and by its very clamorous methods, shoulders every other kind of reading out of men's and women's lives, if not altogether yet to a large extent. If it gave in place of calmer and more continuous reading something better, this would no doubt be well. But the emulation between newspapers is not, as a rule, as to which will give most instruction, but which can bawl loudest into the ears of poor mortals, and which most can excite and wear upon their nerves. For the most part they care nothing to be correct; all they wish to be is to be interesting. They care nothing to elevate; all they wish is to cultivate and nourish cravings so that they may get readers. We are not, of course, speaking of good newspapers but of those which sacrifice self-respect to circulation. Their aim is to be as vulgar as the average reader, and they naturally find their aim ever going lower. The community is elevated either in point of morals or of intellectual refinement not by them but in spite of them. Apart from their unreliableness and their vulgarity there is in their almost essential nature a condition of things very dissipating to brain power. The pabulum they furnish is in such small morsels, the change of subject through which the reader has to pass is so distracting; the subject-matter is so frequently mental lumber, which there is no object in remembering, and which it is rather a virtue to forget; the quantity is so great, making a frantic skimming take the place of reading, that the mind is in many cases more injured than strengthened by it. The whole mental condition of a newspaper-fed country is dyspeptic."

The *Vorwärts*, Buenos Ayres, objects chiefly to the training received by young men endeavoring to earn a living as members on the staff of a modern newspaper, in which this Argentine paper sees a serious danger to civilization. In a series of articles dealing with sociological subjects, in which the most objectionable kinds of modern paupers and proletaires are sketched, the *Vorwärts* enumerates the newspaper reporter of the lower rank as the most dangerous. Much of the text refers to the local condition of things. We translate from the remarks concerning the international newspaper field, which close with a declaration that the New York *World*, the pioneer in sensationalism, has forced competitors to follow its lead and spread the evil:

"It is not necessary that the speculator who owns a newspaper should know something of journalism. Business ability is all that is needed, whether one ventures upon the manufacture of a popular sausage, the distillation of whisky, or a modern newspaper. A newspaper publisher must, however, use some discretion in the choice of a foreman, whose business it is to choose and keep to their task the inky slaves necessary to supply the news. Every newspaper prints a long article or two, but these are not generally read, and altho they contain the most valuable of the information printed, their writers are paid worse than any one else on the staff. To a modern newspaper the reporters are the most necessary species of journalists. The expenses for this part of the outfit are not very heavy. Many papers do not pay beginners at all, or hardly enough to buy their shoes. The reason given is that the reporter must become seasoned to the work ere his work is worth paying for. He must learn to obtain the information he desires without the slightest regard for the feelings of the person interviewed, must be ready to commit the most degrading acts, to ferret out family secrets, and overcome every spark of manhood within him. Many of these beginners realize after a while that they can not proceed far enough with the process of self-degradation, and retire from the contest. Their work has cost the publisher nothing, or next to nothing. They may have resisted the pernicious influences of reporterdom to some extent, but they can not escape the consequences of their villainous training altogether, and are let loose upon the public as intellectual and moral eunuchs.

"In England and the United States there is nevertheless a wide field for the reporter who has finished his training. Such men lack neither talent nor assurance, both qualities being essential to

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the successful perversion of simple facts which the taste of the modern newspaper reader demands. The finished reporter has not, and may not have, the slightest personal conception of right and wrong. His duty is to write as his employers direct him, with a view to the class or party prejudices prevalent among the purchasers of the paper. This is also the reason why reporters are not allowed to sign their work. A writer whose name is published has a reputation to defend, and can not be kept in utter subjection.

"The duty of the foreman, commonly called editor, is to continue the process of moral and intellectual emasculation with the reporters, and to remind them continually that they are slaves. Hence a man possessed of some knowledge is rarely chosen as editor. On a successful newspaper the editor must be both ignorant and tyrannical. If a reporter hands in an article written in good style, faultless in grammar, and if views are set forth which reveal the knowledge and judgment of the writer, the editorial coolie-driver must mutilate it. Whenever the text of an otherwise well-written article seems incomplete or is full of contradictions, the pasha of the editorial sanctum has been disciplining a reporter whose brain power is in excess of the requirements of his calling.

"Occasionally the editor is so very dull an individual that the reporters can, without his knowledge, earn for their paper a reputation for shrewdness and wit. A bright reporter can sometimes veil the truth so skilfully that the intellectual reader perceives it, while the editor does not. But if such an article is in any degree injurious to the party interests of the paper, swift vengeance overtakes its writer."

SENATOR HOAR ON DEGENERACY OF THE SENATE.

SENATOR GEORGE F. HOAR of Massachusetts makes an interesting reply to the persistent critics of the latter-day Senate of the United States. Speaking from the standpoint of twenty-one years of experience in the upper branch, Senator Hoar is confident enough that the Senate has not degenerated. He reinforces the defense of the character and usefulness of the body as constitutionally created and employed, by historical comparisons, such as have often been made but seldom in more positive terms. "Talk of the degeneracy of the Senate," he says (*Forum*, April), after referring to the assault on Charles Sumner in the Senate chamber, "to men who remember the time when a Vice-President was inaugurated in a state of maudlin intoxication; or the earlier day when Foote uttered his threat to Hale that he should be hung on the tallest tree in the forest if he should come to Mississippi; when the same man drew his pistol on Benton in the Senate chamber; when Butler poured out his loose expectoration and Mason gave exhibition of his arrogant plantation manners; or when Sumner likened Douglas to the noisome, squat, and nameless animal, who switched his tongue and filled the Senate with an offensive odor—therein quoting an epithet once applied to Lord North in the House of Commons." Senator Hoar goes farther, referring to a speech he made in the House in 1876 proving that corruption was worse during the first sixteen years under the Constitution than at any later period. To show that the Senate has improved, Senator Hoar says:

"We have a right to say that the evil influences of the lobby in legislation for private and not public ends, which, like the ointment of the hand, betrayed themselves in the atmosphere of the Senate chamber and in its corridors, are all gone to-day. We have a right to say that drunkenness, which existed when I first entered public life, is not known there to-day, and that Senators no longer bring whisky-soaked brains to meet the high demands of the public service. We have a right to say that the use of executive patronage for personal advancement—so that each Senator who supported the Administration had a little army of followers devoted to his personal interests, supported at the public cost—has gone by. We have a right to say, also, that if important legislation demanded for the public welfare is often defeated by obstructive measures or prolonged and needless debate now, for the eighty years while slavery ruled, and while the strict state-rights construction prevailed, such legislation was not even introduced and its chances were not worth considering. We have a right to say that the work the Senators now give to the public service, day and night, is a constant, hard work which was unknown in either House of Congress, save to a very few persons, fifty years ago. Men who belonged to the minority were not permitted to share even in the ordinary routine business of legislation. It was considered almost an audacity in former times for one of them to move to adjourn. Levi Lincoln told me that his time, when he was a Whig member of Congress, hung heavily on his hands, and that neither he nor any of his Whig colleagues was permitted to take the slightest share in the duties of legislation."

Senator Hoar intimates that complaints are incident to all government. Admitting that filibustering is a great evil, he asserts that "probably this has not happened once in the Senate where it has happened twenty times in the House of Representatives or in some of our state legislatures." This evil is defined as the prevalent "attempt of minorities to prevent the constitutional action of majorities whenever the minority happen not to like it." The worst form of it, he says, is the election frauds all over the country; the same treasonable spirit that interferes with the organization of state legislatures for the mere purpose of electing Senators. A "practical cure" for both evils is suggested in this language:

"First, we ought to have laws upon the statute-book, both national and state, punishing by sufficient penalties every Senator or Representative who absents himself from the body to which he belongs for the purpose of preventing the exercise of its constitutional functions, and declaring that such absences shall operate as a resignation of the seat. The failure of a Senator or Representative-elect to qualify should be punished in the same way, such failure being declared a refusal to accept office. This can be done without any amendment of either national or state constitution. Second, I believe a rule can be, indeed it has been, devised which will secure reasonable opportunity to vote in the Senate and at the same time secure reasonable debate and reasonable amendment. When these two things are accomplished, we shall have done everything we can to cure the evil until we shall elevate and purify the character of the people itself."

Of numerous objections to the direct election of Senators, Mr. Hoar emphasizes the folly of expecting better results from irresponsible conventions having no other duties and creating new temptations to illegal practises.

Senator Hoar also takes up the complaint against the recent policy of admitting new States. Whatever injury the admission of Nevada during the war caused, he says, and whatever benefit came from the abolition of slavery, must be changed to profit and loss of the policies which saved the Union. In seven small Western States the average population, upon admission, was slightly less than 192,000. "Of the other thirty-eight States, there were but thirteen which had at the time of their admission a population equal to this average. There were only five which had a population equal to the three largest of these States; only three equal to the two largest. Eight at the time of their admission were smaller than the smallest of these new States; seventeen were smaller than the second smallest; and twenty were smaller than the third smallest." He thinks that the government of Territories by our methods is very bad for governors and governed. As to the vote of these States on late questions he declares:

"But they have done no harm. When the purchasing clauses of the act of 1890 were repealed, their votes were evenly divided. Between McKinley and Bryan, they certainly did as well as the solid South. All the States that went into the rebellion voted for Bryan; and they were reinforced by Missouri. If we make a comparison of the large States and the small States, the States that have four Representatives, or less, did pretty well. They gave forty votes for McKinley to thirty-one for Bryan. The

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States that have two Representatives, or less, gave twenty-two votes for McKinley to thirty-one for Bryan."

Passionate complaint against the personal quality of Senators from these States Senator Hoar attributes in most instances to political prejudice; the complainants, he avers, certainly will be slow to admit that the great States have sent more industrious, honest, and faithful public servants.

Senator Hoar claims that enumeration would show that "by far the larger part of the great and humane statutes by which the people have expressed their will have originated in the Senate." He further alleges that the House does "not dare trust itself to exercise its great responsibility freely and deliberately." The House, he admits, has sometimes prevented mischievous legislation, but it is a changeable body and capable of infinite mischief according to the judgment of conservatives. Again:

"In spite of the previous question and the hour rule, the House at its best is an infinitely more obstructive body than the Senate. The obstructions in the Senate can be caused only by large minorities. Great measures are delayed and defeated by the power of twenty or twenty-five men out of ninety. But the same thing is constantly done in the House by one man alone [the Speaker]. . . . The promptness with which the House of Representatives deals with some important questions is a good thing; but its capacity for prompt action is purchased at the price of the repudiation of public debts, and the suppression of the constitutional rights, personal dignity, and official authority of the great mass of its members. Gentlemen occupy seats there who, from the beginning to the end of their term of service, are not permitted to make a motion or to utter a word to the assembly of which they are members. Perhaps wise legislation may be secured while one House is conducted on that principle; but I am afraid free government would not long endure if it were applied to both Houses."

The blessings coming from the Senate, according to Mr. Hoar, outweigh ten thousand times the attendant evils. To enumerate, in brief: a union of forty-five separately represented States at peace, covering a continent wider than Europe, with greater interests and more precious hopes; protection of the American people from a pure democracy by means of a body standing for "deliberate, permanent settled desire—its sober second thought"; one place in government secured "where debate is unfettered and the power of amendment—perhaps more important even than free debate—is preserved to the fullest extent."

THE OREGON SENATORSHIP.

NO party has a decided majority in the United States Senate, but it is contended that the Republicans may secure something like assured control if the vacant seat of Oregon be filled. The late policy of the Senate has been opposed to the seating of appointees by governors of States when legislatures have failed to elect, notably in the case of Lee Mantle of Nevada in 1893. It was then held that the settled law is, in substance, that if a state legislature has once acted, or had the opportunity to act while the vacancy exists, the governor has no power to supply the failure of the legislature to fill it. The Constitution itself says in this regard:

"The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the legislature thereof for six years, and each Senator shall have one vote. . . . And if vacancies happen by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any State, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies."

In Oregon the legislature spent the whole time alloted to its session in a vain attempt to organize, on account of the fight for a successor to Senator Mitchell (Rep.), and the governor has appointed ex-Senator H. W. Corbett. Whereupon the case is made out that a vacancy has "happened" in the constitutional sense, even if there did not exist plenty of precedents to establish the authority of a governor to fill a vacancy no matter how caused. A number of cases of seating appointees as late as 1889 are cited in Mr. Corbett's behalf. In discussing the merits of this case the Springfield *Republican* says in part:

"A legislative deadlock over a senatorial election after organization does not differ essentially from a deadlock over such election preceding and preventing organization; and the case stands properly, it would appear, with the Lee Mantle case and others of a similar nature. . . .

"As ex-Senator Edmunds has pointed out, the later rule of action by the Senate has been on the side of refusing seats to men appointed by the governors on the failure of legislatures to act where the vacancy was known of and certain to take place at a particular time. And this seems to accord pretty closely with the Constitution and the laws. Particularly is this true since 1866, when Congress provided a uniform rule for legislative action in filling senatorial seats vacated at the expiration of the terms of incumbents. Legislatures meeting next preceding the expiration of a senatorial term are advised or commanded in this statute to take notice of the forthcoming vacancy and to proceed to fill it.

"Much stress has been laid on the evident constitutional intent that the seats in the Senate shall be kept filled. But it was also the constitutional intent that the legislature should elect Senators, and the governor should appoint only on extraordinary occasion. Lieutenant-governors are to act as governors under most constitutions in case of death, resignation, or disability of the governor; but the lieutenant-governor does not thereby become acting governor when the governor fails through obstinacy or ugliness or incapacity to perform the duties of his office.

"Such governors are impeached, and legislatures which fail in like manner to perform their duties ought to be also held up to public opprobrium, and helpful to this end would be the yawning gap in that State's representation in the United States Senate arising out of the legislative incapacity. Surely it was never the intention of the Constitution to help out and encourage such incapacity by constituting the governor a guardian and protector of the same in the matter of filling Senate vacancies.

"The seating of Mr. Corbett would add to the Senate and give to the country one of the best and ablest of representatives of the people. But it has also become a matter of large importance not to encourage further these legislative deadlocks which are more and more frequently bringing the public authority into popular contempt."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

APRIL 1 is a very appropriate date for a tariff bill that hasn't been passed to go into effect.—*The Globe, Boston.*

IN THE EAST.

When Greek meets Greek,
Then for the tug of war;
When Greek meets Turk,
Then for lots of gore.
When the powers meet both,
And draw the line of chalk,
Well, that's different—
Then talk, talk, talk!

—*The North American, Philadelphia.*

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION EXTRAORDINARY.

"What we want is protection for our wool."—*Dingley.*

The Post, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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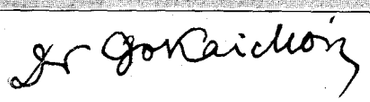
LETTERS AND ART.

THE GREAT HUNGARIAN NOVELIST.

IN 1843 a Hungarian youth of eighteen produced a drama which received honorable mention by the Hungarian Academy. Since that time he has written about two hundred and thirty volumes, and still, at the age of seventy-one, is producing two volumes each year. The youth was, of course, Maurus Jokai, author of "Black Diamonds," "A Modern Midas," "Timar's



Two Worlds," etc., who is a noble by birth, an academician, a member of the Hungarian Parliament, and who, until recently at least, was editor of two journals. His works have been translated into eighteen languages, and, outside of his own country, he is the best known of all Hungarian writers.

In the last number of *Cosmopolis* Mr. R. Nisbet Bain writes at some length of Jokai's life and work in literature. He attributes the novelist's great productive power to the "invigorating influence of a singularly sound and well-disciplined brain." He says Jokai illustrates more than any other living writer *mens sana in corpore sano*. From boyhood he has subjected himself to regular and methodical habits, and both his taste and his talents have yielded him much in the way of recreation. He is an excellent rider, fencer, and athlete; he draws and paints; he has carved in ivory a bust of his late wife, which attests to a wonderful skill in this direction. Besides, he is a horticulturist, dividing the honor of his melons with that of his dramas. There is no branch of natural history with which he is unacquainted.

In the Hungarian Revolution (1848) Jokai was in the popular movement heart and soul. As editor of an influential newspaper whose contributors were among the leaders of the day, he served the cause with both pen and sword. He assisted in drawing up the twelve articles of reform demanded by the nation.

As editor of a liberal newspaper, he was once prosecuted for too great freedom of speech, fined 1,100 florins ($440), and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment at hard labor. The sentence was, however, commuted to a few months' of perfectly comfortable, if not pleasant, confinement.

He has thus described his infatuation with politics:

"Well, confess it I must, I have a sweetheart for whose sake I have been unfaithful not only to my wife but to my Muse also—a sweetheart who has appropriated my best ideas . . . and whose slave I was and still am. Often have I wasted half my fortune upon her and rushed blindly into misfortune to please her. For her sake I have patiently endured insult, ridicule, and reprobation. For her sake I have staked life and liberty. . . . Now if she had been a pretty young damsel, there might have been some excuse for me. But she was a nasty, old, painted figurehead of a beldame; a flirting, faithless, fickle, foul-mouthed, scandal-mongering old liar whom the whole world courts, who makes fools of all her wooers, and changes her lovers as often as she changes her dress. Her name is *Politica*, and may the plague take her!"

Nevertheless, he still is, as he has been for many years, a member of the Liberal Party in Parliament.

Unlike the proverbial prophet the influence of Jokai's works is most felt in his own country. In the midst of the triumph which the French school has achieved in Hungary, as elsewhere, there is no one of the younger writers there but is ready to acknowledge the superior power of their septuagenarian novelist. That he is not better known in all parts of the world is due in great measure to the difficulty in translating the language. The Magyar is a non-Aryan tongue, extremely difficult, and of such peculiar idiom that it is no easy matter to preserve to a foreigner the style of the author while presenting the subject-matter in its full force. Mr. Bain thus speaks of the quality of Jokai's work:

"Quite apart from their high artistic excellence, there is a healthy, bracing, optimistic tone about his romances which appeals irresistibly to our nobler instincts and is infinitely refreshing in these *fin de siècle* days, when fiction loves to dally with morbid themes and rakes 'documents' out of the gutter and the stews. Jokai may not possess the spiritual insight of a Tolstoï, or the enigmatical subtlety of an Ibsen, or the microscopic accuracy of a Zola, or the psychopathological acuteness of a Bourget; but, on the other hand, he is never dull, dirty, perverse, or obscure, and there is more humor (and of the best sort) in any two of his greater romances than is to be found in the whole range of modern French or modern Scandinavian literature."

Bad Musical Breaks by Novelists.—Law is recognized as a universal snare for novelists, but music seems to be almost equally dangerous. So thinks a writer in *Macmillan's Magazine* (February), and he proceeds as follows to tell why he thinks so:

"In their allusions to the musical art our novelists commit the most amazing blunders with the most serene conscience, blunders of which any schoolgirl would be ashamed, and from which no more trouble than is necessary to turn over the leaves of a dictionary of music might have saved them. One novelist, for example, makes his hero a soprano; another pictures a Scottish Highlander sitting on the roadside singing a Jacobite song and accompanying himself on the bagpipe. Mr. Marion Crawford has ascribed 'La Favorita' to Verdi, a feat paralleled by Mr. Black in setting a lady down to a piano to play Beethoven's 'Farewell,' a composition unknown to that musician's many admirers. Mr. Black has again distinguished himself by describing one of his heroines as playing an unheard-of and impossible sonata of Mozart's in A-sharp major. One of the early Popes stigmatized the innocent scale of C-major as lascivious, and banished it from the music of the church. One can understand Mr. Black's key of A-sharp major being placed on the *index expurgatorius* of the musician, for the ten sharps which would be required to make up its signature would frighten a Diabolus among piano-players. Even Charles Reade, who really did know something about music, at any rate about old violins, was on dangerous ground when he ventured on details of musical technic. In 'Peg Woffington,' for example, he makes the famous actress whistle a quick movement upon a huge paste ring, and then tells how Mr. Cibber

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was confounded by 'this sparkling *adagio*.' No wonder Mr. Cibber was confounded; a quick movement which is at the same time an *adagio* is enough to confound anybody. Nor are Englishmen the only offenders. Victor Hugo, in 'Les Misérables,' has three violins and a flute playing some of Haydn's quartets at a wedding. The combination is curious enough in all conscience, and certainly Haydn never wrote for any such quartet of instruments. Aristotle held that the moral effect of a flute is bad and exciting; what it might be when combined with three violins we can only guess."

THE AUTHOR OF ONE HUNDRED SUCCESSFUL BOOKS.

"OLIVER OPTIC," whose death in his home in Dorchester, Mass., at the age of seventy-five, was chronicled the other day, is said to have published one hundred volumes and from eight hundred to one thousand short stories. Few among the "grown-ups" of the present day need to be told anything about

WILLIAM T. ADAMS (OLIVER OPTIC.)

the nature of his writings. He was, in a sense, the founder of a school of writers for boys, and his works have circulated far and wide.

"Oliver Optic" was a pseudonym taken from the character in a play in vogue in Boston when he was bringing out the first of his long series of boys' books—"The Boat Club"—in 1854. He had, however, published work of a rather different sort before, "Hatchie, the Guardian Slave," appearing in the wake of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in the early fifties.

William Taylor Adams was the writer's full name, and he was a native of Medway, Mass. He went to school in Boston, afterward teaching, and in 1860 became headmaster of the Boylston school. He was a member of the Massachusetts legislature for one term, refusing to run for the office again. He was an editor at various periods of *The Student and Schoolmate*, of *Oliver Optic's Magazine*, and of *Our Little Ones*. We quote a paragraph from the Baltimore *Herald's* Boston correspondence as to his method of "making copy":

"Mr. Adams arranges and maps out his work in a most orderly and systematic fashion. He keeps a book containing the names of the characters that are to appear in each story, together with a brief sketch of the part each is to play in the development of the plot. This latter he thinks out beforehand, and after it is all arranged in his mind he begins to write at once. He uses the typewriter and is a very rapid worker. His 'copy' is beautifully neat and contains scarcely any corrections or interlineations, which is all the more remarkable from the fact that the stories are never rewritten."

The Boston *Budget* comments in very kindly tone on the influence of his books:

"How much his work has accomplished for the uplifting of youthful ideas! In his stories virtue always triumphed, in the good old ideal fashion, and the youngsters who read them could not help being better children and better patriots. He has been active to the last, dying in the harness while engaged in finishing the last volumes of his "Starry Flag" series. In the literary life of America he has been an unique figure—establishing his greatness in the hearts of the boys and the girls, and laying a stone of immortality that shall stand as long as the present generation may exist."

MORE LIGHT ON PATMORE'S CHARACTER.

FOR sixteen years Edmund Gosse was an intimate friend of the late Coventry Patmore. Inasmuch as Patmore was a very reserved man, never accessible to interviewers, Mr. Gosse has been in considerable demand by editors who were desirous of giving some light on the character of a poet one of whose works—"The Angel in the House"—has been sold to the extent of 200,000 copies. In addition to the contribution by Mr. Gosse to *The St. James's Gazette* (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, February 27) we find an article by him in *The North American Review* (March), and another in *The Contemporary Review* (February), of which the latter in particular gives many interesting facts that lighten up the poet's character. Another article, by Louis Garvin, appears in *The Fortnightly Review*, which, however, tho displaying familiarity with Patmore's poems, displays none with the poet himself.

From *The North American* article we glean that 200,000 copies of "The Angel in the House" have been circulated in Europe and America; that the author issued it anonymously because of the bad odor into which his father had dragged the family name; that at the age of twenty-three, when Patmore first met "the angel," he was a thin, hungry-looking youth, of whom a lady said that she never saw him eat a mutton-chop without wondering if it would be the death of him, so starved and haggard did he appear; that he had but £75 a year to live on when Lord Houghton secured for him a place in the British Museum, which made it possible for him to marry; that, to make sure that a congeniality of taste existed between himself and Emily Andrews, the object of his affections, he loaned to her a copy of Emerson's "Essays," asking her to mark the passages that struck her most, and was delighted to find that these passages were the same as those that most impressed him (oh, the artfulness of woman!—that is our remark, not Mr. Gosse's); that the household resulting was "the most cheerful, the most graceful, the most dignified that ever was supported on such a tiny pittance," and that the "angel" was in real life, as in the poem, "one of the simplest, sweetest, and most inspiring women that ever contrived to make a poet happy"; that she had, however, strong anti-Catholic views, which kept Patmore, who was a high churchman with strong pro-Catholic proclivities, from leaving the Anglican Church until after her death.

From *The Contemporary* article, we learn that in 1846, before his marriage, Patmore met Tennyson, whom he made for three years "the object of ceaseless adoration," following him about like a hound, roaming the streets of London with him far into the night. In later years, Patmore was a little prone to dwell upon the seamy side of Tennyson's character. A somewhat similar

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change came over his relations, once intimate, with Carlyle, Browning, Rossetti, Millais, and Ruskin. Here is a further description of Patmore's wife:

"She accepted, without a murmur, the poverty of her husband; her practical capability was ever at his service, and yet she contrived to be always charming and always hospitable. She surrounded him with friends, for Mr. Ruskin was at her feet, and those who looked upon him as the brightest star on the horizon of English art were proud to follow him to Mrs. Patmore's little drawing-room. She was ready, and competent, to listen with sympathy to Tennyson's growling elocution, and to be engaged at the same time with the plainest duties of the needle. She bore six children, and I have heard it said that she made not only all their clothes and her own, but the principal part of her husband's also. She seems to have been preeminent for sweetness of temper and activity of mind."

Mr. Gosse tells the following story of the destruction, in 1887, by Patmore himself, of the MS. of his real masterpiece:

"Since 1881 Patmore had been engaged on a prose work, called 'Sponsa Dei,' which was in strict accordance with, and illustrated the same moods as 'The Unknown Eros.' I had received minute instructions as to the publication of this book, which he had directed me, in case I survived him, to issue at a certain time after his decease. He must have completed the MS., I suppose, in 1883. An incident of a very startling nature disturbed this plan. On January 30, 1888, when I had been staying a day or two with Patmore at Hastings, he said to me at breakfast, abruptly, almost hysterically, 'You won't have much to do as my literary executor!' and then proceeded to announce that he had burned the entire MS. of 'Sponsa Dei' on the previous Christmas Day. His family knew nothing of this holocaust, and the ladies immediately cried, 'O papa, that is why you have been so dreadfully depressed since Christmas!' I said little at the moment, but when I was alone with him in the study, I asked him if he seriously meant what he had stated. He replied yes, that it was all destroyed, every scrap of it, every note, except one page, which he had published in 1887 in *The St. James's Gazette*. He had come to the conclusion that, altho wholly orthodox, and proceeding no further than the Bible and Breviary permitted, the world was not ready for so mystical an interpretation of the significance of physical love in religion, and that some parts of the book were too daring to be safely placed in all hands.

"The 'Sponsa Dei,' this vanished masterpiece, was not very long, but polished and modulated to the highest degree of perfection. No existing specimen of Patmore's prose seems to me so delicate, or penetrated by quite so high a charm of style, as this lost book was. I think that, on successive occasions, I had read it all, much of it more than once, and I suppose that half a dozen other intimate friends may have seen it. The subject of it was certainly surprising. It was not more nor less than an interpretation of the love between the soul and God by an analogy of the love between a woman and a man; it was, indeed, a transcendental treatise on divine desire seen through the veil of human desire. The purity and crystalline passion of the writer carried him safely over the most astounding difficulties, but perhaps, on the whole, he was right in considering that it should not be thrown to the vulgar. Yet the scruple which destroyed it was simply deplorable; the burning of 'Sponsa Dei' involved a distinct loss to literature."

How Browning's Fame Was Delayed Twenty Years.—The story is told by Dean Farrar (in *The Independent*, New York), as told to him by Browning himself. It runs as follows:

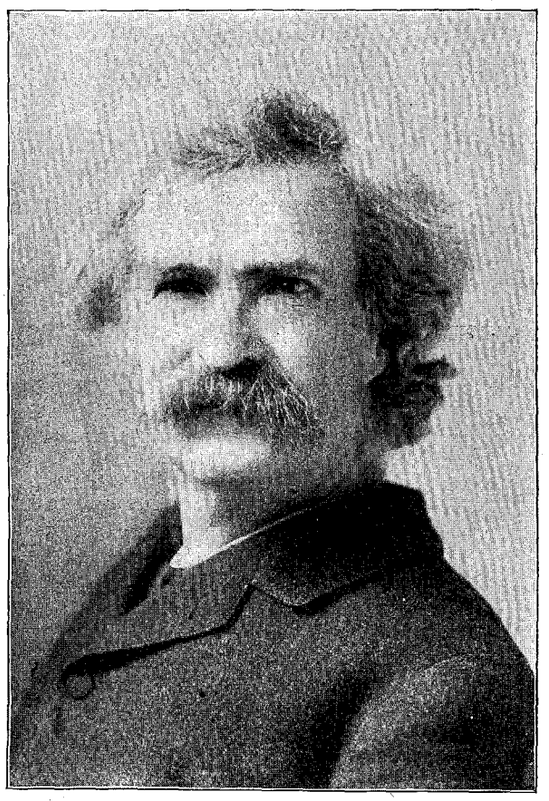
"He [Browning] said that when one of his earlier volumes came out—I think 'Bells and Pomegranates'—a copy fell into the hands of Mr. John Stuart Mill, who was then at the zenith of his fame, and whose literary opinion was accepted as oracular. Mr. J. S. Mill expressed his admiration of the poems, and of the originality of the lessons they contained; and he wrote to the editor of *Tait's Magazine*, then one of the leading literary journals, asking if he might review them in the forthcoming number. The editor wrote back to say that he should always esteem it an honor and an advantage to receive a review from the pen of Mr. J. S. Mill, but unfortunately he could not insert a review of 'Bells and Pomegranates,' as it had been reviewed in the last number. Mr. Browning had the curiosity to look at the last number of the magazine, and there read the so-called review. It was as follows: '"Bells and Pomegranates," by Robert Browning: *Balderdash!*'"

In a footnote, Dean Farrar says that the word "balderdash" may not have been the exact word, but was the word as Browning remembered it. The Dean goes on to quote the poet further:

"'It depended, you see,' said Mr. Browning, 'on what looked like the merest accident, whether the work of a new or as yet almost unknown writer should receive a eulogistic review from the pen of the first literary and philosophic critic of his day—a review which would have rendered him most powerful help, exactly at the time when it was most needed—or whether he should only receive one insolent epithet from some nameless nobody. I consider,' he added, 'that this so-called "review" retarded any recognition of me by twenty years' delay.'"

MARK TWAIN'S NICHE IN THE TEMPLE OF FAME.

IF he gets a niche, it will not be as a humorist; nor as a story-teller or delineator of character; nor as an historical writer. It will be as an embodiment in his own character, and in the characters in his books, of the typical American. Such is, in brief, the view taken of Mark Twain by Charles Miner Thompson, in a critical article in *The Atlantic Monthly* (April). Mr. Thompson makes mention of the fact that Twain "has never been accorded any serious critical notice." He thinks that it is high time that such notice should be given him, for he occupies "a strangely conspicuous position in the world of letters," and "his name is a household word in all places where the English language is spoken, and in many where it is not." Mr. Thompson proceeds, therefore, to bestow upon him such notice, with the result already stated.



SAMUEL CLEMENS (MARK TWAIN).

He gives first a swift sketch of the career of Twain. Born in the town of Florida, Mo., 1835, he developed into "a great boy

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for history" (according to his mother), but could not be persuaded to go to school, and spent his boyhood in "a series of mischievous adventures." His father dying when Samuel was twelve, the boy became a printer's apprentice. Three years later he ran away from home without a cent, and for five years wandered through the eastern half of the country as a tramp printer, and then suddenly changed his vocation and became a pilot on the Mississippi. When the river became closed by reason of the Civil War, young Clemens, then twenty-five, enlisted on the Confederate side, was captured, escaped, and fled to the far West, where, in 1867, he published his first book, "The Jumping Frog of Calaveras." As a newspaper correspondent, not long after, he sailed from New York to Europe and the Holy Land, and on his return woke up one morning, at the age of thirty-four, after his book describing the trip ("Innocents Abroad") had been published, to find himself famous.

After this brief sketch, Mr. Thompson finds it easy to account for the fact that Twain is "so imperfectly an artist," and for the further fact that the influence of the Mississippi River upon his imagination is so manifest in his best work. "Through whichever of his books the Mississippi flows," we are told, "it fills them with a certain portion of its power and beauty. To it is owing all that in his work which is large and fine and eloquent. The river is what makes 'Huckleberry Finn' his most vivid story and 'Life on the Mississippi' his most impressive autobiographical narrative."

As for his style, Mr. Thompson finds it, even when correct, without distinction. Nor has he any constructive power, the narrative in which he succeeds best being one in which incidents of about an even value succeed each other, as in "Roughing It," "Innocents Abroad," "Life on the Mississippi," and his latest book, "that picturesque failure as an historical novel, 'The Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc.'"

Not only is he not a great or skilful writer, according to Mr. Thompson, but he is not a great humorist or a great wit, nor yet a creator of a new character in literature. On these two points we quote as follows:

"Mark Twain has shaken the sides of the round world with laughter; but after all, has he, in the mass of his writings, uttered any witticism which touches intimately, much less radiantly expresses, some eternal truth of life? Has he ever created any character bearing so plainly a lasting relationship to human nature that it will live on to be hailed brother by future men? Unless indeed some of the clever sayings of Pudd'nhead Wilson have greater depth and reach of meaning than they now seem to have, the answer to the first question is plainly 'No.' Not many of Mark Twain's witticisms will appear in the familiar quotations of the coming century. The answer to the second question is perhaps susceptible of a moment's debate. But probably not more than two characters will rise in the memory of any one who may wish to answer it otherwise than also by a 'No.' These will be Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn."

Yet even these two boys, the critic continues, are but familiar types, the former of the general idea of boy, as found with variations in thousands of books, and the latter of the usual vagabond boy of the species *Gavroche*. We quote again:

"Now, if Mark Twain has neither uttered memorable witticisms nor created any finely humorous character, it will not be as a great humorist that he will survive. Nor is the reason for his failure hard to find. His lack of mastery of form, his constant offense against taste, is, of course, a large part of it, but not all. The humor which finds in him its chief source of expression is that of a shifting and evanescent semi-civilization, the humor of new men in new circumstances in a suddenly developing country, wherein the ups and downs of life, immensely exaggerated both in speed and in span, made a grotesque appeal to the sense of incongruity of a naturally humorous people. The society of the West is not yet settled into its final form, as that of the East may be considered to be; but already it, and we who know it, have traveled far from the possibility of appreciating fully its special humor. A few years more, and most of its fun will seem to all, as it seems to many now, the merest extravagance, as hard to understand as the spirit which prompted the gargoyle on the medieval church. A humor based upon the transient conditions of such a life can hardly be more permanent than the life itself."

Mr. Thompson pays tribute to Mark Twain's excellence as an observer and describer of life. "He has recorded the life of certain southwestern portions of our country, at one fleeting stage of their development, better than it is possible it will ever be done again." He has a "tenacious memory for detail," "microscopic imagination," and "real interest in the serious side of life." But it is not to these qualities that his great popularity is due. It is accounted for as follows:

"The comparison between Abraham Lincoln and Mark Twain which was suggested a little while ago doubtless appeared fantastical enough. But after all, is not the feeling of kinship which the people had with the statesman the same which they have with the writer? There is certainly no way to a nation's heart more nearly direct than to make it feel that you are of one flesh and blood with it. It loves to see itself literally personified in the executive chair; it likes best that writer who thoroughly expresses its own ideas, gives form to its own moral and mental nature. That is always the secret of success—the one thing in common between popularly successful mediocrities and popularly successful great men.

"Such is the conclusion that has been reached by the editors of our most popular periodicals; the working theory by following which they have attained success. Such, again, is the conclusion that those writers who would be popular have arrived at after studying the works of writers who are popular. . . .

"In other words, the great writer is one who to generous artistic and intellectual gifts adds the further good fortune of being the type of a multitude. In the field of politics, the same theory will explain the common success among us of mediocrities, the very great success of some really great men like Lincoln. The same theory explains the vogue of Mark Twain."

The critic summons in brief review the "typical Americans" in reality and fiction—Crane's portrayal of "The Senator," the "Uncle Sam" of the comic papers, the American in Kipling's ballad of the "Imperial Rescript," *Fulkerson* in Howells's "Hazard of New Fortunes," *Pinkerton* in Stevenson's "The Wrecker," and Lincoln as described in Herndon's Life. He then continues:

"These figures which chance to come to mind blend easily—do they not?—into a sort of composite personality, a shrewd, ready, practical, irreverent, humorous, uncultivated man, who is apt to jeer at art and the civilization of Europe, but for whom you have nevertheless, a large affection and a high respect, partly because he has, to a striking degree, such excellent qualities as essential seriousness of character, self-reliance, courage, kindliness, honesty and simplicity of heart, the domestic virtues; and still more, perhaps, because you are a good American yourself, and know him to be the man you would like to be were good manners and cultivation added to him. This is, after all, the type among the many that we recognize as American which is most generally found throughout the United States."

It is this type that Mark Twain is continually drawing; and his work, we are reminded, is "almost wholly autobiographic." "This man, this typical American, is Mark Twain himself." And Mr. Thompson concludes:

"If a man can thoroughly express the individuality of a nation, he may fairly be called great. We may lament the artist lost, but we may rejoice in the man. He has drawn the national type, interpreted the national character. For that service we may be grateful. And he has taught unobtrusively, but none the less powerfully, the virtues of common sense and honest manliness. If it comes to a choice, these are better than refinement."

A NEW "find" is reported of interest to all students of literature. After the death of Pushkin, the great Afro-Russian writer, his manuscripts were turned over to the poet Jukovsky, who found among them fragments of a poem entitled "Russalka," which, it was supposed, never was completed. Now after the lapse of fifty years the complete poem has been discovered and soon will be published.

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SCIENCE.

HOW EYELESS ANIMALS PERCEIVE LIGHT.

WE are told by H. M. Bernard in *Natural Science* (March) that many living creatures that have no eyes can yet distinguish quite well between light and darkness. He says:

"The fact that certain skins are sensitive to light has long been known. Most of us are familiar with the case of the earthworms, whose sudden withdrawal into their holes on the approach of a lighted candle was observed and described by Darwin. The earthworms have no eyes, and there is no other apparent explanation of this reaction but that the skin itself is sensitive to the light-rays. It is also well known that this is not the case with all skins—our own, for instance—and that in the vast majority of animals there is only one organ, viz., the eye, which is sensitive to variations of light intensity."

The latest researches on the subject, according to Mr. Bernard, are those recently described by Dr. Willibald Nagel, who has made experiments in the Naples aquarium, chiefly on molluscs. The facts proved by Dr. Nagel are thus set forth:

"First of all, then, the author established beyond doubt that, apart from the stimulus of very bright lights, it is the sudden changes in the light-intensity to which skins endowed with the dermatoptic function [sensitiveness of the skin to light] react, and further, that some animals react to sudden increase of light, and others to sudden diminution. That the oyster, for instance, should react to a sudden diminution of light had been denied by Rawitz, more or less on theoretical grounds. The denial and the objections are conclusively met by the author, the former experimentally, by showing that if a number of oysters kept in a vessel are found open, they will shut simultaneously the moment a dark object comes between them and the light. While the shutting of a single oyster on the passing of a shadow might be a mere coincidence, the simultaneous clapping to of a number of individuals excludes this possibility.

"The animal that gave the best reactions among the molluscs was *Psammobia vespertina*, a bivalve which, as the name implies, lives in sand. The siphons of this animal protrude from the sand as delicate, whitish, transparent tubes without a particle of pigment. If these siphons are suddenly illuminated, care being taken to avoid any mechanical stimulation, they contract. It is important to note, however, that there is a short, latent period of about a second. The brighter the light the greater the contraction.

"If a number of *Psammobia* are placed in a glass with plenty of sand and carried into the direct sunlight, they bury themselves instantaneously. If there is no sand in the glass, they flit about in the water until exhausted. But while very bright light violently stimulates these animals, it was observed that, with moderate illumination, it was not the light itself, but the sudden change from less to greater which caused the reaction; a moderate light appears to be that to which they are accustomed. . . .

"A generalization of interest to biologists must be noted in passing. All the animals which responded to the sudden diminution of light were such as inhabited strong shells, as in the cases just mentioned, or lived in tubes into which they could withdraw, their times of exposure being when feeding. The significance of this the author, no doubt correctly, points out. Warning of the approach of an enemy would in most cases be first given by its shadow. Hence this '*Schattenempfindung*' is most probably protective. On the other hand, the sensitiveness to light-increase is most prominent in animals which live in sand or mud, from which they occasionally and, as it were, shyly emerge. Their sensitiveness to light serves to keep them near their retreats. *Amphioxus* is a good example of this. It lives in sand, and is violently agitated by light if it can not bury itself. It was originally thought that the sensitiveness to light of this animal might be due to the pigment spot at the anterior end of the nerve-cord, but 'headless' specimens are equally shy of light. This appears to limit the seat of the sensation to the skin.

"These very variations of the function, in more or less evident adaptation to the biological needs of the animals, are, it seems to me, a further indication of its secondary origin, and we are led to believe that, if need be, any skin could acquire the capacity of reacting, either to sudden increases or to sudden diminutions of light-intensity, if its life-condition required it. I say we are led to believe this simply because so many different animals have developed it, and quite apart from any theory as to the physiological principles involved."

The researches of the German physiologists show that this sensation has no specific organ; it is associated with the entire surface of the skin, whose cells are either wholly or in part sensitive to light. This conclusion he states as follows:

"The whole skin is a possible retina; cells sensitive to light are there, and the nerves connecting these cells with the central nervous system; all that is wanted to form an eye proper is a dioptric apparatus, *i.e.*, primarily a lens to throw an image on the skin. Distinct vision of the external world would result as soon as there were a sufficient number of the sensory cells to give a connected translation of the image with its various lights and shades into sensation."

Mr. Bernard supplements Dr. Nagel's discoveries by reminding us that, according to the view of many physiologists, the retinal coloring-matter has an important function to perform in the process of sight. That the coloring-matter of the skin performs a similar office is quite probable; it is certainly sensitive to light, as the facts of sunburn prove. Thus the only difference between us and the oysters, as far as the perception of light is concerned, may be that we have largely, tho not entirely, specialized our skin-sense in two spots called eyes, while with the oyster it remains a general function of the whole surface of the body.

AN ALLEGED WONDERFUL NEW STEEL.

THE daily press has reported the discovery by Samuel Maxim, a brother of Hiram Maxim, the well-known inventor, of a new steel, said to possess remarkable properties. These are thus described by a correspondent of the Philadelphia *Record*, as abstracted in *The Engineering Magazine:*

"Mr. Maxim has an experimental laboratory at Wayne, Me., and there, it is claimed, he has discovered a process of making steel which he believes identical with the steel of ancient India, alleged to have been far superior in quality to any steel known to modern mechanicians and metallurgists, until its rediscovery at Wayne. It is further alleged that the brothers Maxim are now fitting up a laboratory and manufactory in London for the commercial production of this remarkable metal. For armor-plating it is claimed that the new steel can be made to resist any projectile now known, even when thrown by the highest explosives, and when the plating is thinner and lighter than that now employed.

"But that which—if it prove to be well-founded—will be of most interest to readers of this department is the asserted tool-making value of the new steel. 'Chisels and drills, made from common iron into steel, through the process discovered by Mr. Maxim, have been submitted to the most celebrated steel-makers of London, who have pronounced them the most wonderful product of modern times. Several drills made from Maxim steel and used by Vickers, Sons & Co., London, steel and iron-workers, have been found to withstand marvelous tests. With these tools the best steel known has been drilled, and the drills have not been marred in the least. A small knife-blade, made from the Maxim steel, possesses the wonderful power of cutting glass with as much ease as if the glass were chalk.'"

Of all this *The Engineering Magazine* says simply:

"Now, if all this be true, the world will not long wait for its verification. We repeat the hope that it may be true."

The personal opinion of the editors may be known from what they say elsewhere on the subject, in the following words:

"The statements recently put forth in the Philadelphia *Record* regarding a new steel discovered by Mr. Samuel Maxim, a brother of Mr. Hiram Maxim, the well-known inventor, are such, we should think, as no creditable newspaper would venture to print without some substantial foundation for them. The average

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daily newspaper often is misled into erroneous statements about mechanical and scientific matters, but it is not apt to quote eminent authorities as indorsing the statements of others, unless it has good reason to believe that denials will not be forthcoming. We certainly hope that all that is told of Mr. Maxim's discovery will prove to be fact; but we shall remain in a wholesome state of skepticism until the stories are fully substantiated. So much has been done in the improvement of steel, and so many announcements of wonderful discoveries by which steel was claimed to gain remarkable properties have come to naught, that even Mr. Maxim would pardon engineers who refused to credit another alleged discovery of the same kind without other evidence than the assertion of a daily newspaper."

DO WE WANT SHIP-CANALS?

ABOUT a year ago a "Deep Waterways Commission" was appointed "to investigate and report whether it is feasible to build such canals as shall enable vessels engaged in ocean commerce to pass to and fro between the Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean." This commission has just made a favorable report, which has been widely commented on by both the technical and non-technical journals. In an exhaustive review of the report *The Engineering News* (February 11) contends that the pith of the question has not yet been reached. It says:

"Briefly summarized, the report of the commission is to the effect that it is feasible to construct such channels to accommodate vessels of any desired class, but in the opinion of the commission the navigable depth of such channels should not be less than twenty-eight feet.

"We consider it extremely unfortunate that the commission construed its instructions so literally. It has confined itself almost entirely to the discussion of the feasibility of making various channels of various capacity over various routes, and has left practically untouched what we have steadily maintained to be the fundamental question in connection with this enterprise, and the one which should be settled first of all, viz.: Is a ship-canal the best solution of the problem of freight transportation from the Great Lakes to tidewater?"

This, says *The News*, is really an open question, yet the commission takes it for granted "that a ship-canal would greatly reduce the cost of transportation between the Lake ports and tidewater," and that such a canal "will pay, no matter how great may be its cost." Says *The News* further:

"Perhaps this is all true; but why should it be taken for granted? To many students of the problem at least, it is by no means a self-evident proposition that a ship-canal over the proposed route would mean the cheapest possible transportation. Or if it would mean it to-day, what certainty is there that it would mean it twenty years or forty years hence?"

Taking into account the fact that from 1883 to 1893 the average freight receipts per ton-mile on the railways of the Middle States fell from 1.04 cents to 0.71 cent, and that Mr. Carnegie is now building a special freight railway to transport ore from Lake Erie to Pittsburg, not waiting for the proposed ship-canal, *The News* believes that it is not quite certain that a canal will be in the end cheaper than a railroad. Then, too, it can hardly be considered as settled that a deep canal is better than a comparatively shallow one. Says our critic:

"Of course the ground on which the commission bases its recommendation for very deep water is the well-known fact that ocean steamers of the largest size appear to be the cheapest freight-carriers, and it assumes that given a ship-canal of sufficient depth, the freight steamers of the world will go up it and load at the Lake ports.

"But is this, after all, a self-evident fact? Suppose a 28-foot channel were completed to the Lakes? Would the owners of a million-dollar vessel send her up a thousand miles of inland waterways, through chains of locks with a total ascent of over 600 feet, to get a cargo at Chicago or Duluth? Perhaps they might if it paid to do so; but, on the other hand, with such a waterway could not the present Lake steamers, which have so phenomenally lowered the cost of freight on the Lakes, continue on down to the harbor of Montreal or New York and transfer their load to the ocean vessel more economically than the ocean vessel could go to the Lake port herself to load?"

In closing, after this somewhat severe criticism, *The News* says:

"We have said that the commission has left practically untouched problems which it ought to have handled. The problem which it has undertaken to solve, however—that of the best route for a deep waterway from the Lakes to the Atlantic—has certainly received a more systematic treatment than ever before been given to it.

"The commission's conclusion is that the St. Lawrence River is the best route by far for such a waterway, and it evidently is more favorably impressed with the Lake Champlain route as a means of reaching the Hudson than with the Lake Oneida route, with its long chain of locks. As for the project for a ship-canal from Lake Erie to the Hudson direct, the commission holds it quite out of the question compared with the other routes named. The Ottawa route, which has been so much talked of, it also discards, partly for the reason that so little is known concerning it that not very much definite can be said, and partly because it is a through route only and could have little local traffic.

"We have criticised the commission for what it has not done; but the work that it has done is certainly of a high order of merit. . . .

"If the ship-canal is all its advocates believe, it probably ought to be built; but they ought at least to be able to give reasons for the faith that is in them."

The Engineering News is not the only paper that, while commending the scientific part of the report, hesitates to recommend the enterprise from a financial standpoint; but some take a more favorable view. In an editorial note *The Yale Scientific Monthly*, February, says:

"The lack of success of the Manchester Canal and the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal at Kiel would cast a shadow of doubt on the subject. But on the other hand this case is different. Such a canal would draw trade from many cities and from almost limitless wheat-fields and iron-mines. A company started a year or two ago made such a success of the through-freight business by way of the Erie Canal as to call a rival company into the field. If business can pay under such circumstances when the boats can be nothing but mere tubs, and the speed hardly ten miles an hour—there is little doubt that large ships and moderate speeds could build up a large through-freight traffic between New York and the West."

One of the most curious phases of the discussion is the suggestion that a moral wrong, and perhaps a legal one too, would be done by building such a system of canals. Great industries have been built up and millions of dollars have been invested, on the supposition that the natural system of waterways would remain as it is indefinitely. To alter the channels of communication in any radical way would therefore amount to a kind of breach of faith on the part of the Government. This seems an absurd view to take, but it is said that eminent legal authorities regard it as worthy of serious consideration.

Smoke and Storms.—The following interesting results have been reached by Herr Kasner, of Berlin, from a study of the periodicity of storms in Germany: "During the years 1883–92, storms at Berlin show a maximum frequency on Thursdays and a minimum frequency on Mondays. Observations made, also at Berlin, from 1830 to 1840 and from 1848 to 1892, indicate a maximum on Saturday and a minimum on Sunday, a fact that has also been observed at Aix-la-Chapelle. New researches, covering other cities, and published in *Das Wetter*, lead Herr Kasner to the conclusion that in general the frequency of storms increases from Monday to Tuesday and that a minimum occurs on Thursday, or on some day immediately following. In industrial cities that contain large numbers of furnaces there is almost always an increase from Wednesday to Saturday and a diminution from

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Saturday to Sunday, while in localities where there are no factories the contrary is generally the case. Variations in atmospheric electricity seem to be intimately connected with variations in the quantity of smoke emitted into the air, as Arrhenius and Ekholm have already noted."—*Translated and adapted for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A PROPOSED GIGANTIC RELIEF MAP OF THE UNITED STATES.

THIS map, which is ridiculed without stint in *The Scientific American* (March 20), is described in a resolution that has already passed the Senate but has failed in the House. The resolution appoints a commission of five persons for the following purpose:

"To examine into and report to Congress upon the practicability, advisability, and cost of establishing at or near the city of Washington a ground map of the United States of America, on a scale of one square yard of map surface for each square mile of actual area, said ground map to be as nearly as may be our country in miniature, reproducing in earth and other materials, on scale, the boundaries and the topography, all the natural and artificial features of the surface, showing geographical divisions, also mountains, hills and valleys, forests, lakes and streams, cities and villages, and that said commission is to serve without compensation."

"For certain very obvious reasons," says *The Scientific American*, "it is not likely that in its present form it will ever become a law," and the critic goes on to state that such a map could not possibly cost less than $500,000,000! This conclusion it supports by figures, as follows:

"The United States have an east and west measurement of 3,000 miles and they extend north and south about 1,900 miles. On the proposed scale of 3 feet to the mile the ground map would be over a mile and a half long and over a mile wide, and there would be 5,700,000 square yards of ground surface to be modeled. If the model were to be given the proper degree of curvature, it would rise to a height of 1,440 feet above the ground level, or to over two and a half times the height of the Washington monument! But supposing that the scheme as it presented itself to the mind of the Senate was more modestly outlined, and that the proposed map was to be built on the flat, the cost, judged by the current prices that are paid for such work, would more than absorb the whole annual revenue of the United States Government. Models that have heretofore been made for the scientific bureaus of the Government have cost, we are told, $10 to $50 a square foot, and generally the higher price. If the work could be done at the lowest rate, it would cost, as any one may readily estimate for himself, over $500,000,000."

Some other interesting details of the cost of the map, as worked out by Mr. Mindeleff, a Washington expert, are as follows:

"As a material of construction, earth is out of the question, that is, if the model is not to be quickly worn away by the elements. Asphalt or cement is suggested; but the first costs over $2 a square yard, and cement more. If the asphalt surface could be laid for $1 per yard, this would require an appropriation of over $5,000,000 for surfacing the model. To build up the contours in wood, as would have to be done to secure permanent work, would require some 1,000,000,000 feet of lumber, and the total cost of the material of all kinds would be not less than $30,000,000. At 50 cents per square foot for modeling, instead of $50 (the price which has been sometimes paid), this item would cost $25,000,000, and, taken altogether, the estimate for the completed map can not be brought down below $75,000,000."

In conclusion *The Scientific American* suggests the following practical modification of the scheme:

"If the scheme were properly modified, there is no doubt but an effective work could be produced. On a scale of 3 miles to 1 inch, the map would be less than 100 feet in diameter, and the whole of it could be placed under cover. The scale would allow the topographical details to be brought out with sufficient distinctness, and the cost would be about fifty thousand dollars—a by no means prohibitive figure."

ZYMOTIC DISEASES AND ALCOHOL AS FACTORS OF EVOLUTION.

FROM time to time the theory has been broached that alcohol, by eliminating the "unfit," is a valuable factor in bringing about the progress of the race. Mr. G. Archdall Reid has now taken up and elaborated this theory, and extends it not only to alcohol and narcotics in general, such as opium, hashish, etc., but to the zymotic diseases as well. In his recent book, "The Present Evolution of Man," he considers the question whether the processes of evolution are still at work on the human organization, and finds that they are, and that their most marked tendency is to produce a race immune to tuberculosis and other diseases produced by microorganisms, and one free from the desire to get drunk. To prepare the ground for his argument, he devotes the first part of the book to a general consideration of evolution. In this he arrays himself squarely against Spencer and the neo-Lamarckians, holding that acquired characters are not transmissible by inheritance, tho the power to acquire such variations is transmitted and intensified.

The author proceeds in Part II. to a consideration of the present evolution of man. Since civilized man no longer contends against wild beasts, since he is comparatively safe from cold and hunger and thirst, since he does not necessarily perish if he be weak of limb or deficient in cunning or can not endure prolonged exposure or privation, is the common opinion justified that "in consequence of this very extensive conquest over the forces of nature, man is no longer under the operation of that law which, in the vast majority of instances, bids species change in adaptation to a changing environment, or perish; and that therefore his evolution has ceased"? The apparently well-ascertained fact that moderns have on the whole larger bodies and brains than had their ancestors of five hundred years or more ago, is cited as proof that the evolution of physical and mental powers in an ancestral direction has not entirely ceased. The author continues:

"But side by side with this evolution of brain and body along ancestral lines, which has engrossed the attention of biologists, but which now threatens to cease, man, during the last few thousand years, during which he has largely dwelt in towns and cities, has been undergoing another and a vastly important evolution in a different direction, an evolution which has escaped the observation of biologists, but which threatens by the survival of the fittest and the elimination of the unfittest to advance at accelerated speed in the near future; an evolution none the less real because it is intangible. If we would discover in what direction the evolution of an evolving species is proceeding, it is a good plan to note which members of it survive and which perish. We shall then, by observing the difference in qualities between the fit and the unfit, be able to discover which traits favor survival, and therefore which traits are undergoing evolution by the accumulation of inborn variations. Applying this test to man, it is manifest that the survivors in his species, they who attain to maturity and have offspring, who continue the race, are not, as in the remote past, necessarily the strong in limb and mind, but necessarily the strong against disease. The present evolution of man is therefore not mainly an evolution of physical or intellectual strength, as in his remote ancestry, but mainly an evolution against disease, and, wherever men are crowded together and can take disease from one another, or there are other unfavorable circumstances, especially against zymotic disease—that is, disease due to or produced by living microorganisms."

Zymotic diseases, says the author, may be divided into three classes. The first includes those diseases, as rabies and syphilis, of which the pathogenic organisms are entirely parasitic and can exist only in living tissues. These can be acquired only through contact with the diseased. The second class includes those diseases, as tuberculosis and the acute exanthemata, of which the pathogenic microorganisms are entirely parasitic, but can maintain existence for a limited time outside the living tissues. These

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are always earth-, air-, or water-borne, tho they may be communicated by actual contact and are essentially diseases of crowded populations. The third class includes those diseases, as malaria, of which the pathogenic microorganisms being essentially saprophytic can exist for an indefinite period outside the living body. Diseases the microbes of which are little capable of existing outside the human body are much more stable in type than diseases the microbes of which are more capable of so existing. We quote again:

"But, so far as we are able to institute comparisons, all zymotic diseases, even the most stable, show differences of type when attacking different races of men, always being least severe as regards each disease in races that have had much and prolonged experience of it, and most severe in races that have had little or no previous experience of it. Thus measles, scarlatina, smallpox, tuberculosis, syphilis, malaria, etc., are comparatively mild in type upon attacking races that they have long afflicted, but comparatively severe in type when attacking races that have been little or not at all afflicted. Judging by current literature this difference of type is generally regarded as something altogether inexplicable, or sometimes it has been said that this or that race has become acclimatized to this or that disease, when the common and very foolish error has been made of imagining that a phenomenon named is a phenomenon explained. To say that a race has become acclimatized to a disease—*i.e.*, that it has become more resistant to it—does not explain how that increase of resisting power arose.

"Starting with the fact, that in many zymotic diseases one attack confers immunity against subsequent attacks, it has been tacitly assumed, if not expressly asserted, that this acquired immunity, or some of it, is transmitted from parent to child, each successive individual of the line beginning life with more resisting power than his parent began with, and transmitting more to his offspring than he received. . . .

"Races that have had a long and disastrous experience of tuberculosis and malaria are more resistant than races that have had little or no experience of them; thus the Englishman who migrates to the west coast of Africa falls an easier victim to malaria than does the negro, whereas the negro who migrates to England falls an easier victim to tuberculosis than does the Englishman. In both cases not only is the disease more readily acquired by the stranger, but when acquired it is much more deadly to him than to the man whose race has had an extended experience of it. In both cases, tho, experience of the disease by the race does not result in a weakening of its resisting power, but in a conspicuous strengthening of it."

The decay of the New-World races is cited as a convincing proof of the author's thesis regarding man's present evolution against zymotic disease. From remote antiquity diseases associated with density of population have affected the peoples of the Old World, and evolution in relation to them has been taking place; but these conditions have not, at any rate until recently, obtained in the New World. Mr. Reid continues:

"Are not all our efforts, whether prompted by philanthropic or religious zeal, by which we seek to protect and preserve the aboriginal races of the New World wholly mistaken? Are they not in effect absolutely murderous? We gather them into close schoolrooms and churches, where teachers and missionaries speak to them from infected lungs. We endeavor to persuade them to abandon their nomadic habits and form settled communities. We—and thereby we prove our own barbarity, the imperfection of our own civilization—force them in climates where clothes are wholly unnecessary, and therefore a species of dirt, to wear clothes, than which a better vehicle for air- and earth-borne disease can not well be conceived. In fact we strive to bring them at one bound into that state of society which has become possible to us only at the cost of tens of millions of lives during thousands of years. During all that time the conditions favorable to the prevalence of zymotic diseases of the non-malarial type have been increasing among us; during all that time these diseases have, been claiming their many victims among the ranks of the unfit, and our races have been undergoing an evolution in relation to them, which, notwithstanding the vast lapse of time, has yet been so rapid, owing to the severity of disease selection, that we constantly meet individuals who, lapsing the evolution of their immediate ancestry, have reverted to the condition of greater susceptibility which characterized their remoter ancestors and who therefore perish in the presence of zymotic diseases. It is altogether impossible that the New-World races can in so short a time accomplish an evolution which it took the Old-World races so long to achieve. . . .

"It is probable that most if not all of the still persistent races of America, Australia, and Polynesia are doomed irretrievably to extinction. In the presence of zymotic disease, and of conditions that ever grow increasingly favorable to it, they are as unfit as was the dodo when man invaded Mauritius."

But besides disease other agencies are causing a great elimination of the unfit; these are the narcotics—alcohol, opium, hashish, etc. "Alcohol not only causes disease among the breadwinners of the community," we are told, but "it is also a cause of destitution to their families, and therefore a factor in the elimination of those who, inheriting the inborn traits of their progenitors, would in the next generation indulge in it to excess." Says the author further:

"In generation after generation alcohol is therefore the cause of a considerable elimination of the unfit in relation to it, and therefore, like a very prevalent and deadly disease, in generation after generation it must be the cause of a considerable evolution against itself. This evolution may be in one or both of two directions; it may be in the direction of an increasing power of avoiding it, that is of abstaining from it, or both. In the presence of an abundant supply of alcohol and of a craving for it, it can hardly result to any great extent in an increased power of toleration, for, under such circumstances, the drunkard would simply drink more, and thereby poison himself as effectually as a less resistant person would with a smaller quantity. The evolution against alcohol must therefore be in the direction of an increased power of avoiding it—in a diminution of the craving for it. *A priori*, therefore, we should expect that races that have long been familiar with alcohol, like races that have long been familiar with a very prevalent and deadly disease, are less harmfully affected by it than races that have had little or no experience of it, and this because they crave less for it, and therefore drink less of it."

The races of Southern Europe, who have lived for thousands of years in the presence of an abundant supply of alcohol, are preeminently temperate, whereas savages of all races who have had no racial experience of it perish in its presence unless protected by prohibitory laws. The craving for alcohol, albeit a by-product of mental evolution, is regarded as an instinct, not an acquired trait, and is comparable to hunger or thirst or to sexual or parental love, not to a love of books or of paintings. We quote again:

"Clearly the direction of the evolution has been from a greater craving toward a lesser, and no probable cause for it can be imagined except alcoholic selection, except the survival of the fittest in relation to alcohol, *i.e.*, the survival in generation after generation, during which alcohol was manufactured in stronger and stronger, in more and more poisonous solutions, of those individuals who craved least for it, and the elimination of those who craved most for it.

"Any race which has undergone alcoholic evolution will, in the absence of alcoholic selection, undergo alcoholic retrogression; whence it follows, since it is impossible to banish alcohol, that any scheme for the furtherance of temperance which is founded on abstinence from alcohol, whether enforced or voluntary, is doomed to failure and worse than failure. It is doomed to failure if founded on enforced abstinence, because even if a race which has so far undergone alcoholic evolution that the majority of its individuals crave little for indulgence in the poison, consent to the passing of a law forbidding its use, yet, if such a law be passed, a time will surely come in some future generation, after the race has undergone retrogression to such an extent that the majority becomes the minority, when the law will be repealed or fall into abeyance. It is doomed to failure if founded on voluntary abstinence, because, in the presence of temptation and the lapse of generations, the opposing acquired traits are prone to

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undergo changes while the instinctive craving remains unchanged except as regards strength; and because the craving would eventually grow so ardent as a result of retrogression that, even if the opposing acquired traits underwent no change, no opposing traits would be sufficiently strong to counteract it."

The author concludes as follows:

"It is surely clear that if the world is to become more temperate it must be by the elimination, not of drink, but of the excessive drinker. If artificial selection [by forbidding marriage to drunken individuals, or in the married by preventing the procreation of children by separating the parents] be found impracticable in the future, as, owing to the state of public opinion, it undoubtedly is at present, then the only alternative is natural selection; in which case the world will never be thoroughly sober until it has first been thoroughly drunk."

The Grippe as a Cause of Insanity.—"Few medical men who have had considerable opportunities of studying influenza in its remoter as well as in its more immediate sequelæ will be surprised," says *The Hospital*, March 13, "to read the verdict given by Dr. T. S. Clouston, medical superintendent of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum for the Insane, concerning the abiding and serious effects of that strange disease upon the nervous system. 'Probably no such destroyer of nervous energy,' says Dr. Clouston, 'and no such producer of nervous disease as the influenza poison has appeared in the world in recent times.' To him, as a specialist in nervous disorders, it is 'the most striking medical fact of his time.'

"Mania and melancholia, undue exaltation and undue depression, are two types of mental disease which stand to each other in the relation of direct contrast. Under certain sets of conditions mania will be the predominating type; under certain other sets, melancholia. Conditions which profoundly depress the nervous system culminate in the melancholic type of insanity. All this is familiar, not to the alienist only, but to the general practitioner of experience. Certain facts, to which Dr. Clouston gives prominence, bring out in a very striking way the profoundly depressing effects of influenza upon the nervous system, effects which continue for years, and may only cease with life. In the seven years beginning with 1883 and ending with 1890, the cases of mania at the Morningside Asylum far outnumbered those of melancholia. On an average there were 45 more cases in each year. That is a common experience at lunatic asylums. But during the seven-years' period just closed, that is 1890–97, the average of mania cases has only been 18 more than that of melancholia. The most striking fact of all which Dr. Clouston publishes is this: that in the three years 1890–91–92, the years of the greatest prevalence of influenza, the cases of melancholia actually outnumbered those of mania, and that during the whole of the three years. To influenza, and to influenza alone, Dr. Clouston attributes these striking variations in the usual circumstances of the history of insanity."

Atmospheric Ozone.—William Sutherland, in a recent paper in *The Philosophical Magazine* (London, March) deduces an important law relating to the spontaneous change of oxygen into ozone, which has important bearings on the constitution of our atmosphere. He finds, from theoretical considerations, that under very small pressure oxygen should exist entirely as ozone. As the pressure increases the ozone changes partially into oxygen, but even at a high pressure the change is not complete. According to his figuring the proportion of ozone in the air at the earth's surface should be about one volume in 7,000. Measurements show that the actual proportion is about one volume in a million, but Mr. Sutherland accounts for the disappearance of the rest by its chemical activity, which causes it to unite readily with metals. Above a point where the atmospheric pressure is about .715 millimeter of mercury, that is, where there is a practical vacuum, what oxygen there is, is completely in the form of ozone. The author says: "These deductions have some hygienic importance, and explain the reason for the current belief that the higher regions of the atmosphere and winds which come from them are richer in ozone than the surface air; they also show that there must be enough ozone in the whole atmosphere to have an important bearing on the blue color of the sky. . . . The claims of ozone to a serious share in the blueness of the sky have been rather neglected; but if it is remembered that the blueness of ozone is enormously stronger than that of oxygen under the same conditions, it becomes apparent that the quantity of ozone which has been theoretically shown to have a probable existence in the atmosphere must exercise a considerable influence on the color of the sky and the color of distant objects."

Starving Out Disease.—It is remarked by *The Medical News* (March 27) that the recent experiments of Teissier and Guinard give some justification to the old saw about "starving a fever." These gentlemen, according to a report made on February 15 to the Paris Academy of Sciences, have performed experiments that seem to show the efficacy of starvation treatment in combating the effects of toxins. Says *The News*, editorially:

"Dogs were the subject of their experiments, and the pneumobacillus and the diphtheria bacillus were the germs employed. Twenty-two animals were subjected, while in a starving condition, to injections of toxin in amounts which invariably killed the control-animals. Four of these recovered, and in those which died the intestinal lesions and those of the liver and spleen were less marked in the starving animals than in those which had received food. To obtain this increased power of resistance against the poison it is necessary that the animal should suffer lack of food for some time. If the starvation diet has continued only five or six days, and if, owing to surplus fat, the animal is able to resist the effect of starvation, he falls a prey to the toxin as readily as an animal receiving food.

"Two hypotheses have been advanced to explain this interesting phenomenon. One presupposes that the cellular elements of the body being starved, as it were, are ready to seize upon and assimilate whatever is presented to them, and that they destroy the toxins before they have time to act. According to the other hypothesis, the toxins act slowly or not at all, because the organism in its starving condition does not supply the elements whose presence is essential for the production of the active poisons. The second hypothesis seems to the investigators to be the better explanation."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"THE London *Daily Telegraph*," says *The Railway Age*, "has an enthusiastic article describing the 'new American vestibule train' running on the London and Northwestern between Liverpool and London, connecting with the transatlantic (Cunard and White Star) boats. It reads rather curiously to American eyes to see things spoken of as unusual luxuries—as in matters of lighting and heating—which have for so long been among the everyday accessories of travel on this side."

PROF. W. E. AYRTON, of London, is quoted by *Electricity* as saying recently, in relation to recent progress in telegraphy without wires: "There is no doubt the day will come, maybe when you and I are forgotten, when copper wires, gutta-percha coverings, and iron sheathings will be relegated to the museum of antiquities. Then when a person wants to telegraph to a friend, he knows not where, he will call in an electromagnetic voice, which will be heard loud by him who has the electromagnetic ear but will be silent to every one else—he will call, 'Where are you?' and the reply will come loud to the man with the electromagnetic ear, 'I am at the bottom of the coal-mine, or crossing the Andes, or in the middle of the Pacific.' Or, perhaps, no voice will come at all, and he may then expect the friend is dead. Think what that will mean. Think of the calling which goes on from room to room, then think of that calling when it extends from pole to pole—a calling quite audible to him who wants to hear, absolutely silent to him who does not."

CAN ELECTRICITY BE STOLEN?—We recently noted that a German court had decided this question in the negative. The Connecticut House of Representatives is evidently of a different opinion, since the daily papers of March 16 report its passage of a bill "providing punishment for stealing electricity, with similar penalties to those provided for stealing gas." *The Electrical Age*, March 20, remarks on these two opposing views of the subject: "We are very glad to hear that the public are beginning to appreciate the fact that electricity can be stolen, and not only that it can be stolen, but that such theft is punishable as described. . . . The tangibility of power, even thou it appears in a form which presents an unsubstantial side to the lay mind, ought to be recognized by all men desirous of being called modern-minded and well-educated. The most deplorable trait of some of the men high in judicial circles of life is the fact that they know too much about law and too little of the essential facts connected with some of the most important vocations in the world. If it be realized fully and comprehensively that the ownership and control of a great source of power far surpasses in value the proprietorship of a gold-mine, a full realization of the value of power and the fact that it can be in part surreptitiously removed, and that, to take it without permission, is equivalent to theft from the coal pile or money stolen from the cash drawer, then perhaps all States in the Union will pass a law imposing penalties upon those who steal power, even tho it be electrical power."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

A MOSLEM OATH.

THE remarkable rôle played by the oath in the mental and social make-up of the Mohammedan, as also its importance in legal processes of the Orient, is known to all Eastern travelers. In the *Mittheilungen*, published by the German Palestine Society, Bruno Hentschel reports a singular incident that recently occurred under his own eyes in Jerusalem, and that throws a characteristic light on the processes of Turkish law and on the importance attached to the oath by the Moslem. The event is the following:

At the Bab Chan ez-Zet, near the Hospiz of the St. John's Order in Jerusalem, there lives a Moslem, originally from Damascus, whose only son in play with his companions had begun to quarrel with them. The latter made complaint to the father, who on his part took a very serious view of the matter and in the presence of fellow Mohammedans cried out aloud: "*Allihi it-talak min et-talate lesim atbatak*," *i.e.*, If I do not kill thee I will divorce myself three times from my wife. As he had but one wife he by his oath would have been compelled to divorce her and marry twice again and divorce these wives also. After he had spoken these words he began to think of the trouble he had thereby brought upon himself and his family. As this son was the only child left of seven children born to him and his wife, he regarded it as out of question to kill the boy. And yet he knew what would be the consequences if he did not keep his oath; he would have been ostracized by his fellow believers.

In his despair he applied to a Moslem theologian and asked for his advice. The reply stated that it would not be absolutely necessary for him to kill the boy; but that it would be necessary for him to show that he was ready to carry out the oath by sharpening a butcher-knife in the presence of his son and with the knife to make a cut into the neck sufficient to cause the blood to flow. This the unfortunate father undertook to do, and when the knife was put upon the boy's neck, the latter through fear fell into spasms that ended his life on the next day. The father was cast into prison, but in consequence of his qualms of conscience became seriously sick in three days and was released. He was never rearrested and still lives in Jerusalem.

THE TRAIL OF SECTARIANISM IN EDUCATION.

REV. DR. JAMES H. ECOB has abated none of his hostility to denominationalism since he left Albany for Denver. He finds in the latter city a striking illustration of the waste of force which he thinks is entailed by the divisions among Christians, and he writes about it to *The Church Union* (undenom., New York). His article begins as follows:

"It is said that a tree reaches as far underground by its roots as above ground by its branches. The secret ramifications of a great evil often outreach its more open manifestations. While our attention has been given to the spiritual evils attendant upon denominationalism, we have failed to trace its baleful influence upon other hardly less valuable interests. I believe it would be possible for a profound thinker and broad scholar, like Mill or Spencer, to trace the rise and progress of institutions in Protestant countries, and show the trail of the serpent, denominationalism, over them all. Why should it be thought a thing incredible that a divisive, clannish spirit in the church must flow down into all the lower institutions and orders of life? If such things are done in the green tree, what will be done in the dry? We may yet learn that the church is not only the mother of religious sectarianism and strife, but likewise the mother of 'schools' and 'sets' and 'wings' and 'parties' in science, art, medicine, music, society, politics, and education. The effect of the sectarian spirit upon education is certainly no state secret. From the beginning the church has looked upon the school as her favorite child. She has nourished it with care, guarded it jealously, endowed it munificently. This is not only sanctified, but common sense. If the church can lay her shaping hand upon the child, she is pretty sure to claim the man. Accordingly, we find that a sect, the moment it comes to self-consciousness, cries, 'Now for a school.' 'My own children, and as many of other people's children as possible, must be trained in my pet notions.' So we have had a long and dreary history of denominational schools, a history of wasted resources and perverted ideals, whose results are entailed upon our own generation."

The situation in Colorado is thus described:

"The oldest institution of higher education in the State is Colorado College at Colorado Springs, seventy-five miles south of

REV. DR. JAMES H. ECOB.

Denver. It happened that Congregationalists more than others were interested in its founding, but it was in no sense intended as a denominational school. Thirty miles north of Denver is the state university. These two institutions, well manned, well endowed, would take care of the interests of higher education in the State for generations to come. But then, what would our Baptist and Methodist and Episcopalian and what-not brethren do? Must they endanger the eternal welfare of their children by sending them to a school more than half of whose endowments bore the taint of Congregationalism; or, as the only alternative, send them to a godless state university? Perish the thought! . . . So we have a little way west of the city a fine hundred-and-fifty-thousand dollar building that has never been occupied, and is slowly going back to the owls and bats, where it belongs. East of the city is another great building, with a little sectarian school in it that does not try to even 'rattle round' in the huge place. At about the same distance south of the city is another sectarian school, living at a poor, dying rate. North of the city the same story is repeated. It is safe to affirm that an unbiased judgment would say that not a dollar of this money was demanded by the educational interests of the State."

Doctor Rainsford's Tribute to Professor Drummond.—The Rev. William S. Rainsford, D.D., rector of St. George's Protestant Episcopal church in New York, pays a brief but glowing tribute to the character of the late Prof. Henry Drummond. We quote portions of it from the columns of *The Churchman*:

"Henry Drummond was a saint and a soldier. Perhaps more than any other man I ever knew, he impressed me as one who walked with God. He seemed singularly free from the common temptations of men; one felt, when with him, that somehow, like the three worthies of Daniel's story, he might have been in the fiery furnace once on a time; but, if so, not even the smell of fire had passed on him. He worked as few men work, even in these days of excessive mental toil. He taught, he wrote, he thought, at white heat, as it were, and yet without hurry. The man's very attitude when speaking was indicative, so quiet, so unassuming.

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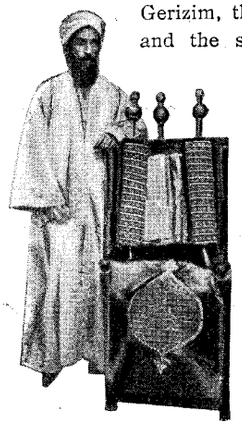
hands behind his back generally, scarcely any movement, his face aglow, sentence after sentence of such beautiful, crisp, almost faultless English, no hesitation, scarcely any repetition, no wonder that men who shook their heads at his science, and attacked his theology, were entranced by his style.

"It seems as tho the church could ill spare Henry Drummond. Emotionally and spiritually he was in closest touch with what was highest and holiest in her immediate past—while few saw so clearly as he did God's rainbow of promise spanning every storm-cloud that gathered in the present. . . .

"Loving he was—for it was his to know, as few know, the love of God; brave, too, very brave. Cruel, wilful (it often seemed to be) misunderstanding opposed and attacked him. His old evangelical friends, to whom he was the first to acknowledge indebtedness, angrily cast him off, but Drummond held his course; no unkind reply, no querulous complaint ever fell from his lips. Whatever, after mature thought, he believed to be God's truth, that he spoke. If it contradicted something he had written before, it mattered not; if it separated him from the friends of years, still it must be spoken. His mission was not to be consistent, but to be *true*."

THE SAMARITANS AND THEIR ANNUAL SACRIFICE.

THE Samaritans are dying out, and it is probable that before many years the annual Passover sacrifice will cease to be held. This rite is now of the greatest historical interest, being the last representative of the ancient Jewish sacrifices. In *The Christian Herald* (March 24) Rev. W. E. Geil gives an account of this unique ceremony, which is held on Mount Gerizim, the sacred mountain of the Samaritans, and the same place on which they worshiped in the time of Christ. Says Mr. Geil:

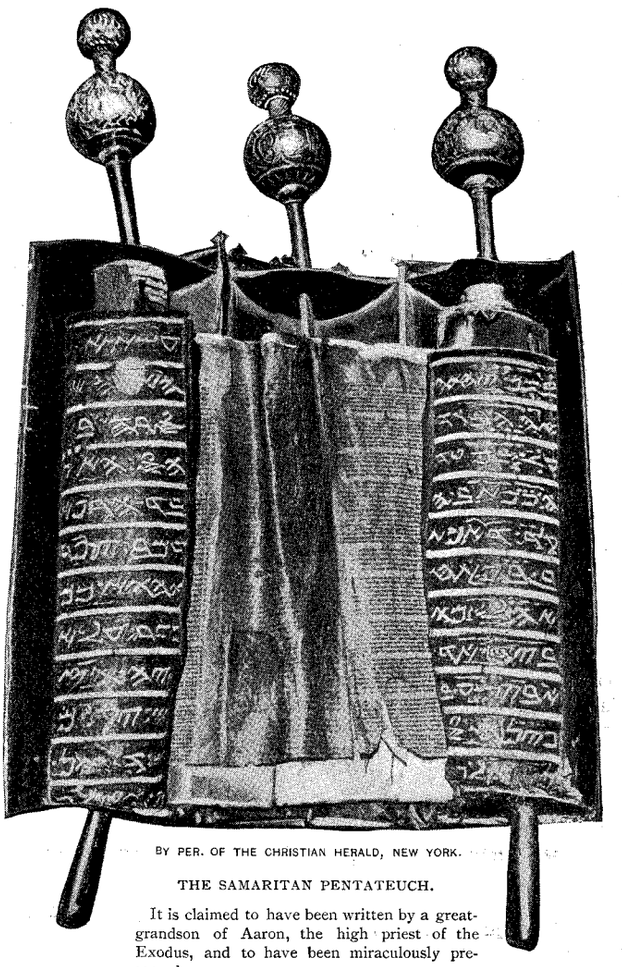


By Per. of Christian Herald, N.Y.

THE HIGH PRIEST.

"Seven days before the feast of the Passover the Samaritans leave their homes, climb the mountain, and encamp in a hollow near the top of Gerizim. Three times a year they make their pilgrimage to the holy mountain, but only at the Passover is there a sacrifice offered. . . .

"About an hour before sunset on the last day of the encampment, one hundred and eleven, which is the full number of the male Samaritans, gather at the place of the slaying of seven white lambs. (Most of the women remain in the tents.) Then Jacob Aaron, the high priest, dressed in long, flowing white priestly robes, steps upon a large stone and stands there barefooted, leading the congregation in chanting prayers or praises. During prayer the men stretch out their hands, bow, kneel, and touch the ground with their forehead, much after the fashion of the Moslems. Seven white lambs having been driven into the circle by seven barefooted young men dressed in white, the history of the Exodus is recited in concert, faster and faster as the moment of sunset approaches. When the 'orb of day' has touched the western sky-line, the seven young men suddenly unsheath their bright knives, lift them on high, they flash in the light of the setting sun for a moment and then across the throats of the innocent lambs. The slayers then dip their fingers in the blood and touch each Samaritan on the forehead and on the nose. Sometimes only the youngest are thus blood-stained. I noticed two holes dug at the place of sacrifice, one some distance from the other and twice as deep. I was told on the spot how a fire is kindled in the deep hole, a kettle swung in and water boiled. The hot water is carried and thrown on the slain animals and the fleece removed. Afterward a spit, fashioned out of what is supposed to be pomegranate, is thrust through lengthwise of each lamb. A shorter spit is either driven through the breast or else is fastened to the long piece where the throat is cut. The fore-feet are stretched out and fastened to it, thus making a veritable cross and crucifixion. They are then taken to the more shallow hole, and fire having been made in it are put in and the hole covered over; here they remain until the flesh is well roasted. I must not omit mentioning that the right foreshoulders and entrails are flung aside and burned. The congregation employ themselves most of the time by chanting. By and by the lambs are taken out and held aloft, then one can behold the seven crosses. They are carried to the place of sacrifice, where the people, having been supplied with bitter herbs and unleavened bread, hastily tear the flesh off and eat it. It is intended that all should wear white robes, have ropes tied around their waists, shoes on their feet, and stones in their hands, thus fulfilling the Scripture requirements to the letter. (Meat is carried to the women in the tents.) After having eaten, the men search diligently for any morsels that may have fallen aside, and burn all that remains and then, according to Deut. xvi. 7, which says: 'Thou shalt turn in the morning, and go unto thy tents,' they depart to their homes.



BY PER. OF THE CHRISTIAN HERALD, NEW YORK.

THE SAMARITAN PENTATEUCH.

It is claimed to have been written by a great-grandson of Aaron, the high priest of the Exodus, and to have been miraculously preserved.

"A guard of fifty Turkish soldiers is frequently necessary to protect the Samaritans, at the time of the sacrifice, from the excitable and fanatical Mohammedan residents of Shechem."

Of another Samaritan curiosity, the celebrated manuscript of the Pentateuch, shown in the accompanying picture, Mr. Geil writes as follows:

"In Nabulus is the famous Samaritan Pentateuch, which they claim was written by Aaron's great-grandson. It is not that old, but there seems to be good reason to believe that it is a trifle over two thousand years of age. It is kept in a costly case of silver which is wrapped about with a cover of fine Venetian cloth. Some portions look older than others, due no doubt to the priests kissing Aaron's name."

Of the decreasing numbers of the once-powerful sect, the priest said to Mr. Geil:

"'There are two hundred and one now. Of that number one hundred and eleven are males and ninety are females. Our young men find it difficult to obtain wives. All except the priests

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may marry Jewish ladies, if they can get them.' This last was said with a merry twinkle in the eye.

"'Do you have any converts?'

"His answer was simply the following question: 'Who would join the poor and the hated?'"

REV. DR. BARROWS IN INDIA.

AN echo from the Parliament of Religions is now coming from India, where Rev. Dr. John H. Barrows, the president of that body, has been spending some time. It will be remembered that Dr. Barrows was severely criticized by many Christian people for organizing such a gathering as the Parliament of Religions in the first place. The mere fact of calling together on a common platform, with the advocates of the Christian religion, the representatives of Confucianism, Buddhism, Mohammedanism, and other diverse and alien faiths, involved a concession to these false systems, it was said, which could not be otherwise than harmful. And it has often been asserted since that the results of the parliament as seen in mission-fields at home and abroad have fully justified these predictions. Some months ago Dr. Barrows went to India for the purpose of delivering a series of lectures on Christianity, the funds for this work being supplied by a wealthy woman of Chicago, who became interested in the line of effort opened at the parliament. With these explanations the following from *The Interior* will be understood:

"A letter from Dr. White, of Calcutta, to Dr. Meloy, of Chicago, says: 'Dr. Barrows was faithful in exalting the name of the Lord Jesus. The missionaries indorsed him heartily. We praise God for the out-and-out stand which he took.' There would have been no occasion for solicitude on this subject had not some of our Presbyterian papers disparaged him and his purposes, before he left our shores. *The Indian Christian Herald*, edited by a native, speaks of his 'downright faithfulness.' *The Queen*—liberal—thinks his lectures a failure because he did not exhibit a greater breadth of view of the ethnic religions, and says:

"'His liberalism has been, it seems, more of a sentiment than either a moral or an intellectual conviction. We do not certainly object to his Christianity; there is a really liberal Christianity, as there is a really liberal Hinduism; nor do we believe that liberal Christianity is only to be found among Unitarian Christians, and not among trinitarians. Dr. Barrows does not belong, to judge by his Calcutta lectures, even to the advanced ranks of liberals among trinitarian Christians. His interpretation of Christianity has been orthodox from beginning to end; and they take no note of the results of modern criticism of the Christian Scriptures.'"

The North and West refers to the same matter in the following paragraph:

"Some belated attacks on Dr. Barrows are still falling upon his head. But his position as president of the Parliament of Religions led to his reception by Hindus with an ovation. He had listened patiently to them. Now they are giving him the greatest audiences a Christian lecturer ever had, and he is giving India what the missionaries say is the strongest and most effective argument for Christianity ever heard. The immediate result of the parliament was to lionize a few yellow-jackets who will soon be forgotten. The permanent outcome will be the more rapid evangelization of India. Christianity has no fear of comparison with the ethnic religions. It courts the light. It challenges discussion and examination. It will win the world powers within the next fifty years at least."

The Watchman (Baptist, Boston) has an editorial note on the subject which reads as follows:

"We have never joined in the cry of our ultra-conservative brethren that Dr. Barrows was going to India to shake hands with the faiths of that country. The missionaries are reporting that their hands have been sensibly strengthened by Dr. Barrows's powerful and persuasive setting-forth of the Christian faith. Only those are disappointed who expected something else. And it is now apparent as never before to the intelligent native mind that Christianity is able to hold its own, while dealing fairly with every other religion. It is exceedingly fortunate that Christianity has been represented, in this course, by a man of the combined intellectual keenness and fervent evangelical spirit of Dr. Barrows."

Rev. Dr. Francis E. Clark, president of the United Society of Christian Endeavor, who is now on a tour around the world, writes to *The Independent* from Madras, India, concerning the work of Dr. Barrows as he sees it on the ground. He speaks first of the criticisms upon Dr. Barrows for the part he took in the Parliament of Religions, and the fears expressed that his appearance in India would only serve to strengthen and confirm the alleged evil results of that gathering. As to these matters Dr. Clark writes:

"These fears and doubts found expression in many of the Christian papers of India before Dr. Barrows's arrival; and he himself confided to me that it seemed to him at first a forlorn and hopeless cause to win the interested support of the Christian public of India. Moreover, Dr. Barrows was still further embarrassed by the somewhat exuberant attentions of well-meaning Hindus who had received some social attention while in Chicago.

"For instance, the Jains met him at the wharf in Bombay when he landed, put a garland of flowers around his neck according to the beautiful Eastern custom, and presented him with an address of welcome in a silver box. Thus the impression was given that the heathen regarded him if not as a champion at least as a friend of their religion, or as an impartial exponent of the value of all religion.

"However, Dr. Barrows had not been long in India before all this was changed; Christians were relieved, missionaries were rejoiced, and the non-Christians were obliged to confess that, tho greatly interested and stimulated by his lectures, they found no shadow of support for their tenets. In fact, so outspoken were his lectures on the side of evangelical Christianity that they have proved the strongest bulwark of the Christian truth which has been raised in India for many a day.

"The very fact that he had beforehand obtained the sympathetic hearing of a multitude of non-Christians gave these lectures a currency which they could not otherwise have had. The Hindus came perhaps to receive support from one whom many supposed to be a sympathetic admirer of their religion; but they went away convinced that, in Dr. Barrows's opinion, there was but one remedy for the sins and sorrows of the world, and that remedy the religion of Jesus Christ."

It is well to add in this connection a paragraph from the most recent letter written by Dr. Barrows himself in his "World Pilgrimage" series in *The Interior*. Speaking of the results of Christian missions in India, Dr. Barrows says:

"It is one of the truest of old sayings about travel that you find what you are looking for. In India we find everywhere missions, and I can easily make fun of those globe-trotters who see in India tigers and temples, bazars and nautch-dances, but no evidences that Christian Europe and America are doing anything for the evangelizing of this great land. Missions and missionaries in Bombay, missions and missionaries in Benares, missions and missionaries in Calcutta. And in Darjeeling to-day missions and missionaries are more conspicuous than the Himalayas. Now I am not going to rush into print with a host of hastily formed opinions derived from three weeks' study of India. I have plenty of opinions gained in part from observation and in greater part from long conversations with men and women who know India almost as well as Drs. Noble and McPherson know Chicago. I am informed by Dr. K. S. Macdonald, the beloved president of the Calcutta Missionary Conference, that people who spend three months in India usually have a greater number of decided views than those who spend their lives here.

"The problems are so many, vast and complicated that he is convinced that there is no man living who thoroughly understands India and Indian missions. Still there are some things which I am certain that I should be just as sure of after a residence here of forty years as I am to-day; namely, that India needs Christianity and that Christian missionaries are doing good work here. A number of Brahmas realize and acknowledge that Christ is to have a great part in the regeneration of India, while Hindus and

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Mohammedans understand perfectly well that the schools and colleges which Christianity has fostered have created some of the better conditions of the new national life."

PRESENT STATUS OF NEW-TESTAMENT CRITICISM.

THE Old Testament has in the last two decades been the great debatable ground of biblical criticism to such an extent that the problems of New-Testament research have scarcely been brought to the attention of the average reader. And yet the investigations in this department have been going on with unabated vigor, even tho these did not monopolize public interest as they did in the days of Baur and the famous Tübingen school. In addition it can be stated that in regard to the New Testament the "higher critics" have reached a general consensus that is yet to be sought in regard to the Old Testament. What this consensus is, is well illustrated by a series of articles on the "History of the New-Testament Canon" that appeared in the *Christliche Welt*, of Leipsic, from the pen of Ernst Teichmann. We give the following summary of the positions taken in this interesting series:

The New Testament ordinarily conveys primarily the impression of a unity, all these books entering into the composition of the canon being regarded as parts of one whole. This is particularly the case in matters pertaining to our religious life. Yet it is generally known that when we look at these writings historically, they can lay no claim to such a unity. On the contrary, the one book falls into a number of component parts. There are twenty-seven writings in all, differing vastly in contents and character. On the one hand we have the simple and transparent Gospel according to St. Mark; on the other the rabbinical proofs in the Epistle to the Hebrews of the superiority of the priesthood of Christ over that of Aaron and his descendants. In Paul's letter to Philemon we have a specimen of private correspondence making no claims to recognition on the part of others; while in the Apocalypse of John we have a book which at its close calls down the curse of God on him who would take away one iota from this book of prophecy. Compare, too, the simple manner in which Paul addresses his Thessalonian Christians and the pompous style with which the author of the second letter of Peter salutes his readers. Author and contents of these books vary vastly. The first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians, the oldest book in the New Testament, was written about the year 54 or 55. The so-called Second Epistle of St. Peter is the latest book in the canon, and can not have originated earlier than the second half of the second century. The nearer this letter is placed to 200 A.D. the better it can be understood historically. Under the most favorable circumstances then there is at least a difference of one hundred years between the earliest and the latest New-Testament book; and possibly it may be one hundred and fifty years. Accordingly, too, the canon can not have been formed before the year 200. Does not this seem to be a very long time for so small a book as the New-Testament to come into existence? And yet in the case of the Old Testament this period of growth was even greater, even considering that the Old is so much larger than the New Testament. It is generally accepted that the book of Hosea is the oldest literary composition now in the Old-Testament canon, and the book of Daniel the latest. The former originated in the reign of King Jeroboam II., 783–743 B.C., and the latter book can be exactly figured out as dating from January, 164 B.C. Comparatively speaking the New Testament is in a more satisfactory shape in this regard than the Old.

The formation of these various books into a canon transpired in three periods, the first reaching down to 140 A.D., in which practically no collection of sacred books as collections existed in the Christian churches; a second period, down to 200 A.D., in which the fundamental form of the canon obtained recognition, tho in various shapes, in the churches; the third period from 200 down, in which the canon assumed the form now accepted.

Not one of the original disciples of Christ has left us a single line in writing, just as little as Christ did Himself. The New-Testament books bearing the names of these disciples in the New-Testament canon can not stand the scrutiny of historical criticism and belong to the very latest productions in the canon. The original disciples did not think of writing such books. They had other things to do and their minds were occupied with other matters. In their view the Lord would speedily return to establish His kingdom. Their own generation should witness His advent. What cause or occasion had they to put into writing the Gospel they proclaimed? Who could be profited by such writings if the Lord was to appear bodily in their midst in the near future? This is the real reason why the earliest Christians did not feel the necessity of possessing any other sacred writings in their congregations than the Old Testament and the Lord's sayings, which were early circulated traditionally among the Christians and also put into writing.

A difference in this policy was effected by the apostle Paul, the most conspicuous among the early representatives of the Christian cause. Paul had not been under the spell of the personal influence of Jesus, and yet he learned to understand the Lord most thoroughly, and it was he who first drafted literature and letters into the service of the church. Yet it never entered his mind that through his letters he was calling into existence a new class of holy writings. He too recognizes only two authorities for faith and life, namely the Old Testament and the Lord Jesus. And it is remarkable what a knowledge of the Old Testament he presupposes even in his gentle readers. He is constantly citing the Old Testament. But his own writings he never regards as authoritative. When he at times, as in 2 Cor. ii. 4, refers to a previous writing, it is always a letter addressed to the same congregation. He never appeals to other letters of his nor presupposes that these are generally known.

The only exception to this method of procedure in New-Testament books is the Apocalypse of John, already cited. But this book belongs to the class of apocalypses common in those days, and the close of John is not unlike that of the book of Baruch. But the standard view of the New-Testament writings is that the Old is the last and highest court of appeals, by the side of which stand also the sayings of the Lord, which Paul repeatedly quotes. In regard to the authenticity of the New-Testament books there has been considerable advance since the days of Baur. The literary origin of the first three gospels constitutes a problem by itself, namely the synoptic question, it being the general opinion that the original Mark gospel and a compilation of Lord's sayings and doings, mentioned by Popian, and originally written in Hebrew, constitute the basis of our gospel; while the fourth gospel stands absolutely alone, its authenticity being yet questioned by some critics. The "golden circle," consisting of Romans, two Corinthians and Galatians, stands absolutely above any doubt or debate; of the other Pauline Epistles, the pastoral are questioned more than any others, but the tendency is decidedly conservative. Paul's authorship of Hebrews is being defended more now than has been the case for many decades. The Catholic Epistles are the great debatable ground for critical research.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

UP to March 6, the number of Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor in the United States was 26,959, besides 10,482 junior, 166 intermediate, 50 mothers', and 23 senior societies, making a total of 37,680. The number in all the world is 48,305 with 2,800,000 members.

AN editorial in *The Primitive Methodist*, the organ of the Primitive Methodist denomination of England, shows that within the past ten years provision has been made for 14,000 additional worshipers, and the value of the denomination's trust property has increased $4,000,000.

A NOTE in *Zion's Herald* says that Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Farmer-Atkinson, of England, have presented to the Wesleyan Book Room a bust of John Wesley which is of much interest and value. It is one of those originally produced from Enoch Wood's famous cast of the face. It was formerly the property of Mr. Thomas Farmer, of Gunnersburg; and has been in his family for perhaps more than a hundred years. It is a fine work of art, and is probably as good a likeness of Wesley as can be found.

THE tentative program of the Fourth Lambeth Conference, to be held in July in London, has been issued, and a considerable number of speakers have been named. Among the topics on which American bishops are to speak are the following: On "The Organization of the Anglican Communion," the Bishops of Long Island and Pennsylvania; on "Foreign Missions," the Bishop of Arkansas; on "Reformation Movements on the Continent of Europe and Elsewhere," the Bishop of Albany; on "Church Unity," the Bishop of Pittsburg; on "International Arbitration," the Bishops of New York and New Jersey; on "The Relation of the Church to the Industrial Problems," the Bishops of Central New York and Washington; on "The Book of Common Prayer," the Bishop of Springfield. Nearly two hundred bishops in connection with the See of Canterbury have signified their intention of attending the conference.

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FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

AMERICA'S BONDAGE TO BRITISH CAPITALISTS.

WE Americans are the slaves of the British capitalist. It is not a Bryanite and Populist who makes the assertion this time, nor a foreign anarchist or communist. It is Dr. Karl Peters, who aspires to be only a historian. He does not criticize, he only records what appear to him facts, and he is a great admirer of the British Empire. He believes that the Anglo-Saxon is destined to rule the universe, and has been roundly rated by his German countrymen for saying so. As an historian he feels bound to acknowledge that the Briton gathers his tribute with as much brutality as ever did the Roman or the Persian; but he is firmly convinced that the march of the Anglo-Saxon can not be retarded, because our great Republic is fastened to the Lion by golden chains.

The following summary is a chapter of Dr. Peters's "Rise of the British Empire," on which he is now working. The *Zukunft*, Berlin, has been favored by the author with the right to publish some parts of the work, and our summary is taken from our Berlin contemporary:

In the schools we are taught that England is an industrial state; in reality she is changing into a purely capitalist country. The time is approaching when Glasgow and Manchester will be unable to compete with foreign rivals, but the capital heaped together in the city of London will control all foreign industry, monopolizing all private property. Already India, America, Australia, and South Africa are forced to send their produce at cheap rates to England, in part-payment of dividends and interest. British Imperialism is not founded upon cannons; it rests upon money only, and ancient Rome never exploited her provinces in a more relentless manner than Great Britain her possessions or any country subject to the influence of her capital.

Among the countries thus ruled by England is in the first place the United States. India pays in London twenty million pounds sterling ($100,000,000). The tribute of Australia and South Africa is about $75,000,000. The United States, however, alone pays $250,000,000 (fifty million pounds sterling) in dividends annually at the lowest computation. French statistics make it $400,000,000. To know this means to understand that the Stars and Stripes, this boasted banner of freedom and independence, floats in reality over an immense dependency of Great Britain. This, too, explains why the warlike spirit of the Americans was cooled down with such ease when London chose to manipulate the markets to the detriment of America during the Venezuelan trouble. The despots of ancient times were wont to demand a tribute of precious metals, grain, cattle, and other produce from the people they had conquered. The Pharaohs did it, the rulers of Persia and Rome did it. It is interesting to note that England does exactly the same thing. The business is managed in a capitalistic form, but the tribute is sent in the shape of produce. America supplies England, to a large extent free of charge, with silver, cotton, beef, and grain; from the money received for this produce the $250,000,000 remains in Engand, to pay shareholders who have done nothing for it. That this state of things must affect prices in other countries is clear. For if one people receive annually a large amount of goods for which they need not return an equivalent, the people who pay the tribute must be so much the poorer.

We will be told that British capital in the first place created the wealth of the new States, and that, therefore, the inhabitants of these States are not a penny worse off. This is, however, a fallacious argument. If England, for instance, builds a railroad in America, the actual work done by an Englishman is paid for immediately in the shape of wages or salaries. The expenses thus incurred are booked against the public, who have to pay so much more per mile traveled. The dividends shared in London are the surplus, the tribute which the world, especially America, pays to Great Britain. And this tribute, for which absolutely no return is made, is collected with as much brutality as ever a Persian king of kings exhibited in collecting his.

That America could ever be freed from this tribute in a normal manner must be regarded as impossible. For this could only be accomplished if the Americans were able gradually to purchase their bonds. This they can not do unless they save up the necessary capital. Now, as they have already to pay $250,000,000 annually of their surplus earnings, it does not seem likely they can save. As a matter of fact their debts increase. The farmers in the United States rarely see cash, and their property is deeply mortgaged. Hence the enormous number of unemployed in Chicago and in the East; hence, too, the emigration from America, which was in 1893 greater than the immigration. America's economical troubles are caused by her bondage, and if we look closer, we will discover that England's capitalistic monopoly is at the bottom of "hard times" the world over. The only possible way out of the difficulty would be force. The American Government would have to take a bold step, it would have to confiscate property held by foreigners. But, as in the case of joint stock companies, it would be difficult to separate the native from the foreign shareholder, and the only remedy is therefore state-socialism or communism. I do not believe that the majority of Americans will be inclined to obtain their freedom from the foreigner at the cost of their individual liberty.

More or less self-government has been granted to all British colonies. The total political independence enjoyed by the United States is, therefore, only a degree above the freedom of Canada or Australia. In spite of the Monroe doctrine we must regard America in the same light to-day as in the sixteenth century—a region which exists solely for the exploitation of the mother country.—*Translated and condensed for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

JAPAN AND THE GOLD STANDARD.

ABOUT three years ago the Japanese Government appointed a special commission to investigate the coinage question. Its report is in favor of the gold standard, and there is, according to the utterances of our Japanese contemporaries, little doubt that the gold standard will be adopted by the Land of the Chrysanthemum. Curiously enough, the reasons given by the Japanese are not likely to prove exclusively the arguments of either gold or silver men in this country. There is a crumb of comfort for both. Count Okuma, the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, gives as the reason that "there is stagnation in Japan's lake of silver, and she must mingle her finances with the ocean of gold"; but many authorities believe that Japan ventures upon a bit of bold, far-sighted speculation. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, Tokyo, says:

"That gold is superior to silver can not be doubted, only care must be taken to seize the most favorable moment for changing our coinage system. If the best time for doing so is when there is a sufficient gold reserve, and the change will not hurt us economically, then it is our chance now. There is a gold reserve of about 30,000,000 yen in the Nippon Bank, and also the remnant of the first instalment of the Chinese war indemnity, about 60,000,000 yen. Moreover, 200,000,000 are yet due from China. Japanese silver coin, in and out of the country, does not amount to more than 70,000,000. Thus the gold reserve is quite sufficient. The question is, however, how the change would effect our trade with China. Mr. Soeda, of the Japanese Treasury Department, thinks we are not likely to suffer. He says:

"'Wages are low in Japan, compared with other gold countries, and the low expense in production will enable us to escape the hardships encountered by our competitors. Then Japan has a geographical advantage. China's competition, on the other hand, need not be feared, as her produce and markets differ very much from ours. But even if China should be able to compete with us in some cases, her advantage would be temporary only. What we need is a permanent financial foundation, and there is none except the gold standard. We must not allow this rare chance to escape us by a policy of penny wisdom and pound foolishness.'"

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks there is too much haste in the contemplated adoption of a new coinage system. The chambers of commerce, says the paper, have not been consulted, and the opin-

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ion of the council of agriculture has not been asked. It is not true that the gold reserve is sufficient. One half of the war indemnity has already been used, and the uses of the other half have been fixed. How can money, the expenditure of which has already been pledged, be laid by as a reserve? The *Nippon* raises an outcry about the expenditure of the navy and army, and declares that the proposed adoption of the gold standard is only another scheme of the Government to ruin Japan by borrowing money for military armaments. The *Jiji Shimpo* expresses itself, in the main, as follows (we quote from *The Japan Mail*):

"For many years Japan has prospered by the use of a metal constantly decreasing in value in Western countries. But the benefits derived from this reached their maximum when the war with China broke out. Now Japan has to contend with two difficulties. She has to find large sums to complete her armament, but is shut out from cheap-money markets on account of her silver standard. On the other hand there is a talk in the West of reverting to bimetalism. Hence the wisest course would be to adopt the gold standard, fixing silver at its present ratio. But there is no hurry. The longer Japan can preserve her present system the better equipped she will be for industrial competition with other nations. A hasty step is unnecessary."

The *Jiji* nevertheless thinks that argument against the gold standard is useless just now, as its adoption by Japan is a foregone conclusion. *The Japan Mail* says:

"Japan's change to gold monometalism is dictated chiefly by the conviction that silver has reached its lowest point, and that its sterling price may be expected to appreciate largely within the next few years. Her financiers would probably decline to reckon the chances of precisely the opposite contingency. They are fully sensible of the great advantages that their country's industry and commerce have derived from the employment of a currency constantly depreciating in terms of the currency of the markets where they sell their commodities. But they think that they have drunk to the depths of that well of prosperity, and that the time has now come to guard themselves against the upward swing of the silver pendulum. In short, they have been made rich by silver that cheapened steadily in terms of gold, and now, thinking that the Occident inclines toward bimetalism, they want to be made richer by gold that cheapens steadily in terms of silver. It has been said that Japan is the pet child of fortune. If this new experiment succeeds, who can deny her right to the title?"

The Japan Gazette acknowledges that the scheme is engineered by statesmen and financiers of known ability, and believes Japan will benefit by its adoption. *The Celestial Empire*, Shanghai, says:

"A strong and resolute government could, undoubtedly, without inconvenience to the country effect this change, and could easily find any quantity of gold needed. The question is, Is the Government of Japan sufficiently strong or resolute? We have seen the difficulties experienced during the last two years at Washington in keeping the stock of gold in the United States Treasury up to the limit of safety. The reason was not the loss of national credit so much as the uncertainty of the men, and the want of continuity in institutions liable to be revolutionized, as the result of a Presidential election. As a consequence, the difficulty of safeguarding the reserve has pressed like a nightmare on the last four Secretaries of the Treasury; and recently the reserve has been maintained mainly by foreign loans. Now a similar condition has prevailed in Japan. Silver, up till now the currency, has been steadily moving away, until the maintenance of the currency has become a serious matter. The Government has drawn almost to the last yen on the stock in the country, and is compelled, in order to continue its war preparations, to go abroad for a loan. Its silver currency stands seriously in the way, and it proposes to exchange it for gold. Now, we need scarcely point out that the better a coin is the more liable is it to leave the country."

THE Kaiser Wilhelm Canal seems to answer all the strategic purposes for which it was constructed. Altho the winter of 1896-97 was unusually cold in Europe, it has been possible to keep the canal open. This enables the Germans to unite their Eastern and Western squadrons at any time.

SIDE-ISSUES OF THE CRETAN QUESTION.

A MILD kind of repression is in process against the Greeks. Crete is under a blockade, which seems to extend only to vessels loaded with arms and ammunition for the insurgents. Greece is still threatened with a blockade of her own ports, but the powers are loth to carry out the threat. For the rest, the Greek Government is bombarded with diplomatic "protests," "notes," and "decisions" which hurt nobody, and are noticed as little by the Greek as by the usual recipient of such documents—the Sultan. Yet this washing the Greek without wetting his skin has its uses. The most ardent admirers of the Greeks are cooling down, and there is little fear that any government will be compelled to retire from the concert for love of the Greeks. The side issues of the Cretan question are discussed with greater interest now. Cipriani and the Italian Socialists who went to Athens to assist Greece in her intended war "against the Turks and the rest of the despots of Europe," have returned to Italy. They describe the attitude of King George and his people as "bluff and humbug." The *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, comments on this:

"These Italian Socialists evidently expected that the Greek Government would start a general European war, during which the Socialists could roast their own chestnuts. Now they have discovered that the Greek is in the business for his own benefit only. They will never forgive the King and his Government for looking after the interests of his own people."

The London *Economist* stigmatizes the attitude of the Greek treasury. The Athens *Proia*, an official organ, relates that Greece has plenty of cash in hand, and could pay for the expenses of a war in gold. Why didn't they pay the interest on their debt, then? inquires *The Economist*. The Greek papers may call this sort of thing patriotism, but other people must call it a downright swindle. Some Italian papers want to know why the advocates of peace and arbitration so bitterly resent the idea of a practically independent Crete. The *Corriere della Sera*, Milan, says:

"It is very funny that the International Peace Society does not approve of the conduct of Europe in carrying out its own views. It has always demanded that arbitration be substituted for war, and to-day the European states are combining to prevent war. Let us beware of judging the matter from a superficial standpoint. The most important duty of the powers was to stop the slaughter in Crete. This they did. For the rest, if every province in Europe were to have the *régime* it prefers, the map of the whole Continent would have to be remodeled, and it is very doubtful that there would be less malcontents after the remodeling than now. Autonomy fully satisfies the legitimate needs of Crete. Italy has no direct interests in the matter, and should keep out of it, except for the preservation of the general peace."

That sympathy with the Greeks and Cretans is waning in financial circles is evident from the tone of the financial press. The *Economiste Français* and the *Boersen Courier* declare the Greeks a nuisance, and advise them to set about paying their debts rather than to disturb peaceable folk. *The Financial News*, London, says:

"It is really of very little moment whether the Greek insurgents were originally in the right or not. Autonomy has been offered Crete under the safeguard of the powers, and the King, his advisers, and every intelligent person in Greece are aware that the Sultan's rule is a thing of the past, as far as Crete is concerned. There are not a few who believe the cutthroat Greeks of the Levant to be a good deal worse in their ways than the unspeakable Turk, and their opinion will not be altered by the recent actions of these martyrs, who have succeeded in imposing on many good people by trading on the religion that they profess, but do not practise. Indeed, it is marvelous that any sympathy can still be felt for a nation which, when offered peaceably all that it could obtain after months of civil war, insists on having a fight for the mere love of the thing."

Turkish opinion is aptly described by the remarks of a Turkish official to the London *Standard*. He said:

"The powers asked us for a Christian governor-general. We

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gave one. They demanded a mixed *gendarmerie*. We agreed at once. They said, We are going to supervise reforms by a commission of expert military *attachés*. We said they were welcome. They told us to clear out our troops. We did so at once. The Greeks at once sent a band of reckless deputies and firebrand lawyers to Crete to preach revolt. We notified this to the powers, who took no measures whatever. The perfectly logical consequence was an outbreak; but it was not Turkey who was responsible. It is the great mistake of Europe to try and 'run' Turkey on European lines. They simply quashed all our authority in Crete, without substituting any other. As for us, we are sick of Crete."

Some English Tories are dissatisfied with Lord Salisbury's attitude because, in their opinion, he ought to "take down the German Emperor a peg or two, instead of allowing him to exercise influence in affairs which do not concern him." A writer in *The Spectator*, London, says:

"The threats of a European war by the German press if the Emperor's advice is not accepted do not frighten Englishmen. We know they were 'made in Germany,' and we smile at the product. . . . The cause of Lord Salisbury's wish to please Germany is doubtless the necessities of our position in Egypt and in South Africa. The strain in the Transvaal does not relax. The time may come when the Boers will require arguments a little stronger than those Mr. Chamberlain is now able to use. If in such an eventuality German inaction could be secured, our controversy with President Krüger or his successor will be simplified. Is it not probable that Lord Salisbury, by his support of the German Emperor in the East, is hoping to gain his neutrality in South African affairs? It is to be feared these hopes rest upon a very slender basis."

The Speaker believes that Lord Salisbury is simply the tool of such despots as the Emperors of Germany, Russia, and Austria, and the King of Italy. "Honorable Englishmen are sometimes the victims of the duplicity of others," says the paper, and further on it continues:

"But we can not believe that any English government will make itself the tool of the despots in carrying out such a policy, and until we have proof to the contrary it should be our business rather to help ministers in achieving purposes which they profess to share with the nation as a whole, than to assume that they have betrayed the national honor and made themselves parties to an inexcusable crime."

The Greek press is specially in arms against the Germans. "Barbarians they are," says the *Kairoi*, "they don't know what freedom is. Their ignorance is so deplorable that they refuse the boon of liberty to a people to whom the more civilized nations would willingly grant it." The paper continues:

"YOU GO FIRST!"—*Punch*, *London*.

"A blockade of the Greek ports would have anything but the desired effect. The bloodshed in Crete may cease, but our people, roused to vengeance, would carry the war into Macedonia, and take what belongs to them. Fate has decreed that Greece can only profit by a general war in Europe, hence we have no reason to fear such a struggle."

The *Kreuz-Zeitung*, Berlin, thinks that all this goes to show that the Greeks are out for plunder rather than for the freedom of Crete. This paper relates with much gusto that certain Greek shopkeepers refuse to serve customers because they are Germans.

Russia's wishes are set forth in an inspired article in the *Microvaja Otgoloski*, which we condense as follows:

Russia has a clearer view of the condition of the Orient now, and she does not want Constantinople. Those Turkish provinces would be a source of weakness to us, for we could not assimilate them. What we will have, and must have, is the key of the Black Sea. We must obtain the Dardanelles and fortify them, to prevent the entrance of foreign warships. Russia, therefore, will not object to the partitioning of Turkey when she is assured that her moderate demands will be recognized.

The *Novoye Vremya* thinks the time is very favorable for pressing Russia's claims. The French Government has been supported by the Chamber of Deputies, and the allegiance of France to the "concert" is therefore assured. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine*, Berlin, says:

"It is to be expected that the resolute attitude of the French Government, supported by the French chamber, will make an impression in Greece. The powers will now inform the Cretans that their autonomy is assured. Colonel Vassos's proclamations, issued in King George's name, will have little influence. He has done nothing practical to pacify the island, and has little intercourse with the Cretans, who favor autonomy. Despite the warlike tone of the Athens press, peace will be preserved."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CHINESE ARISTOCRACY.

THE *Ost-Asiatische Lloyd*, Shanghai, breaks a lance for Chinese customs and characteristics. Our contemporary is convinced that the West may yet learn much from the leviathan of the East. Newspaper men, thinks the *Lloyd*, have less reason to abuse the Chinese than any other people, for in no country is the wielder of the pen—or rather of the writing-brush—treated with so much respect, and nowhere does he exercise such power. The only fault of the Chinese is that they have too great a faith in their own writers. Being told by them continually that the outside world is barbarous in comparison to China, and that Chinese generals and admirals, on account of their superior intellect, could beat any enemy at heavy odds, the Chinese neglect to take the necessary precautions for the preservation of their empire and independence. To this day the crushing defeat suffered by China at the hands of Japan is hidden to the average Chinaman by the literati. The following will show that the Chinese adopted the principles set forth by the authors of "Utopia," and "Looking Backward," long before these books were written:

"On the whole the population of China may be divided into three social categories—officials, merchants, and workmen. The first, commonly described as the literati, is the most powerful. In China truly the pen is mightier than the sword. There is no aristocratic caste, as in Europe, and office is open to all competitors. Yet there is an aristocracy, to whom respect is shown on account of ancestry. It is not, comparatively, numerous, but remarkably ancient and pure of blood. Thus the Duke of Confucius, whose genealogical record is established beyond all doubt, is a lineal descendant of the great Chinese philosopher, who flourished in the time of Socrates. What other nation can produce men of such ancient lineage? When the present duke came to

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Peking a short while ago, his noble mien caused general attention and wonderment.

"Lineage does not, however, confer the privilege of idleness in China. A Chinese nobleman does not possess estates and palaces, has no special privileges in the way of public offices, and does not squander the wealth earned by others. With the solitary exception of the Emperor himself no Chinaman is born with the right to live by the work of others. Work does not degrade in China. The scion of a noble house may earn his bread in the sweat of his brow without fear of losing caste. People who live in idleness because they have plenty of money are hardly to be found in China. If there are any, they are certainly not treated with marked respect for their sloth, as is the case in Europe and America. The Chinese principle is that he who would eat must work. The most elevated calling is that of a writer, and the man best acquainted with the classics confers the greatest distinction upon his relatives. There are, of course, many men of proud lineage among the literati, who fill all offices; but as only absolutely pure descent is recognized, these nobles are not numerous enough to form an all-powerful caste. They can not even hold their own against the other mandarins."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

DRY-ROT IN LIBERALISM.

M. FRANCIS DE PRESSENSÉ, that clever French writer whom Prof. Max Müller styles "a true artist, a most marvelous word-painter," is somewhat pessimistic with regard to the state of Liberalism throughout the world. In a forty-page article in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, Paris, he expresses his conviction that the conservative element has everywhere begun a most successful counter-revolution. The form of government may not undergo a marked change in the several countries, but its construction is likely to become more autocratic. We summarize M. de Pressensé's views in the following:

If a severe judge were to inquire of the third Republic, "What have you done so far?" the correct answer would probably be: "I have managed to exist." That is a good deal, all things considered. The present Republic has established its legitimacy by twenty-five years' existence, and this anonymous, impersonal government with its continual changes seems to suit the people, especially as it was inaugurated by an era of progress, when, from 1873 to 1878, the Monarchists ruled it. Besides, we have no special reason to complain. If the kingdom of Italy, with its notorious corruption, teaches us that republics do not alone suffer from this sort of thing, the United States, with its financial ring, its Tammany, its lobbyism, log-rolling, and trusts shows that the Latin races do not stand morally below others. But that does not exonerate us, and these financial scandals continue to endanger the Republic, for we have entered upon a terrible epidemic of suspicion; each of us thinks his neighbor guilty of corruption. Another cause of danger is that we have no organized, strong parties in France. There is not a sufficient number of people whose aims are alike, hence it is impossible to form a well-disciplined party. Our cabinets are neither alive nor dead, and that fiery, generous Radicalism which alone can put life into a political organization does not exist. Our Radicals to-day are chiefly Opportunists. All this strengthens the hands of the church, whose Legitimist tendencies are not changed. Open rebellion is not as dangerous as this influence exercised by the church over the constitutional parties.

Yet the Republic has done much for the people. The press is free—outrageously free indeed. The officials are elective, the workingmen are free to form associations, immense sacrifices have been made in the cause of education, roads, railroads, and canals have been improved, and the French army has been reconstructed. We have once more a colonial empire. Very well, you will say, but we are not ungrateful; look at the late supplementary elections. Republicans have been elected in most cases. I admit that. The chief danger, however, lies in the fact that we are all sighing for a *man*, as Mr. Frederic Harrison, an eminent disciple of Auguste Comte, justly remarks. There is no desire to restore a monarchy once buried. But we are anxious for the advent of a representative man, altho we have tried the experiment twice with disastrous results, and it would be an unpardonable crime to put our neck in the noose a third time.

Healthy, progressive Liberalism is, however, in a bad way in other parts of the world as well as with us. In Great Britain the fusion between the aristocracy and the moneyed snob has led to the creation of the Unionist party, and the country of classical liberalism is now content with a bastard Imperialism. In Germany the Napoleonism of the Hohenzollerns has not yet been conquered by a parliamentary *régime*. The National-Liberals who created the empire are no longer Liberals. The Progressive Radicals are discouraged. The Socialist party alone, gathering within its folds all the laboring population, represents in a fair manner revolution and opposition to existing conditions. In Austria the Liberals have not kept their promises, and anti-Semitism is increasing in consequence. In Belgium the Liberals have been forced to give away to Radicalism and Clericalism, and in Italy, too, the progressive element has been absorbed by the Socialists.

In America the machine rules with an iron hand, and true Liberals have been forced into a sort of migration to the interior. The buying and selling of votes is common in the badly disciplined American legislature, and the presence of Populist, Silverite, and Popocratic demagogs from the unripe Western States does not improve the Senate. This has led to the rise of an element hitherto unknown in the United States; people who break with the traditions of the country and become distinctly revolutionary, but there is little room for healthy, progressive Liberalism.

As a matter of fact the universal victory of parliamentary, representative, constitutional rule has weakened the Liberal element, and a counter-reformation has set in. As in the grand religious struggle of the sixteenth century, reaction follows victory. We have seen autocratic rule deprived everywhere of its sting, and democracy triumphant. The victor has become corrupted in turn, and the vanquished have become purified by adversity. But Liberalism will not benefit thereby. The reaction seeks to reestablish antiquated institutions. Parliamentarism, being firmly established, is opposed to all, even the most beneficial changes. This is to be deplored, for tho a party may be an admirable instrument, it is a most detestable master.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FOREIGN NOTES.

GERMAN papers point out that in Germany there is a slight falling-off in the increase of population. A Dutch contemporary does not think the decrease can be very serious in view of the latest Berlin statistics. One mother 45 years of age had 23 children. Two, aged 41 and 42 respectively, had 21 each. One, 39 years old, had 20. Two had 19 each, six had 18 each. Seventeen rejoiced in a troop of 17. Thirty-three had presented their husband with 16 children. No less than 204 Berlin families had a round dozen, and there are 447 pairs of twins, but only 6 triplets. The mothers of 12 young Berliners born last year were 50 years old.

THE following is an interesting instance of the extreme freedom of thought and the liberty of the press in Prussia: A female correspondent of the *Praca*, a Polish newspaper, commenting upon Father Szadinsky's saying that it is a deadly sin for a Polish child to repeat the Lord's prayer in German, says: "May there be many such priests! I would refuse to recognize any child of mine that should soil its lips with a German prayer. Our Catholic religion and our Polish nationality are inseparable, neither can exist without the other." And the *Praca* adds: "All hail to such a mother." Yet the Germans take no notice of such insults, and the Prussian Government is loth to interfere.

THE Chartered Company has just settled a law case out of court. A man named Chaddock, having discovered that the Limpopo River is navigable, contracted with the Company and President Krüger to pilot the shipping. The Chartered Company, however, demanded that Chaddock should pilot a vessel loaded with arms and ammunition for the uncivilized tribes north of the Transvaal, up the river, without the knowledge and consent of the Portuguese authorities. This he refused to do, and the Company broke its contract with him. Information obtained from him enabled the Company to send the steamer referred to without his agency, but she was seized by the Portuguese, not, however, until she had disposed of her cargo to the natives. Chaddock has accepted $5,000 compensation.

THE German Society for the Prevention of Drunkenness has complained that the owners of beer-gardens encourage the consumption of liquor to an undue extent. The proprietors of such establishments, on the other hand, declare that they can not provide the comfortable, large rooms, tables and chairs, newspapers, and in many instances music which go to make up a German saloon without recompense. At the suggestion of the society the proprietor of the Raim Saal in Munich, one of the most beautiful establishments of the kind, has now issued passes at a moderate rate, and large placards adorn the wall, bearing the legend "*Kein Trinkzwang*," *i.e.*, "You don't have to drink." For twenty-five cents a month one may visit the place at all hours, without encouraging anything. Occasional visitors pay two cents per hour for the right to listen to the high-class music provided in the place.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

GENERAL GRANT'S HORSEMANSHIP.

HAMLIN GARLAND'S account of young Grant's feats of horsemanship when a cadet at West Point (see LITERARY DIGEST, January 16) has called out a brief letter from Captain Alfred M. Fuller, of the Second U. S. Cavalry. In it he tells of an incident that occurred in Milan, Italy, in 1878, when Grant was making his tour of the world. It had been arranged for the general to review on that day the flower of the Italian army, the flying Bersaglieri. Captain Fuller happened to be at the hotel occupied by Grant, and hearing, what was to be done, took his stand in the corridor to await the general's appearance. He then narrates the incident as follows (we quote from *McClure's*, April):

"In a few minutes I saw the general coming down the stairs dressed in a plain black frock-coat and trousers and high silk hat. He walked by unnoticed, unannounced, in his plain, unpretentious manner, toward the door. At this time one of the group of officers who had dismounted and were standing in the hallway to receive and escort him to the restless steed without, remarked loud enough for me to overhear, 'Why does not General Grant come?' I said, 'There he goes now,' pointing proudly to the simply dressed figure. They looked at me with a doubting laugh, saying, 'No, that can not be he.'

"I replied, 'I am a United States officer and know him well.'

"Meanwhile General Grant had come to a halt, having undoubtedly heard the remarks, as a good-natured smile lurked on his face. Finally, one of the officers, being sufficiently convinced, approached and asked if he was General Grant. Receiving an affirmative reply, a look of utter astonishment overspread their faces; they hastened to make amends for their apparent rudeness, accompanying him to the waiting horse, who was making frantic efforts to shake himself free from the three stalwart grooms.

"A more restless, wicked-appearing horse I have seldom seen. I was in mortal fear that our general would be speedily thrown and crushed to death by the cruel hoofs. From the sly winks and nudges that passed between these dandyish young officers it looked to me very much as if they had assigned to the general of set purpose a young, untamable horse that had never been ridden. My fears for him were somewhat removed when I saw General Grant's eyes lighten up with admiration as he gazed upon the horse. Whether it was that the general was not well or was merely assuming a sort of helplessness, I have never been able fully to determine; but in mounting he accepted the assistance of two officers (the horse fully occupied the attention of the three grooms), and from an apparent stiffness had some difficulty in getting his right leg over the saddle. So soon as he touched the seat, however, he grasped the reins, his form straightened, and the change in his appearance immediately so impressed those around with his thorough horsemanship that spontaneously a shout of applause went up from the crowd. The horse, after a few futile plunges, discovered that he had his master, and started off in a gentle trot. From that time on horse and rider were as one being."

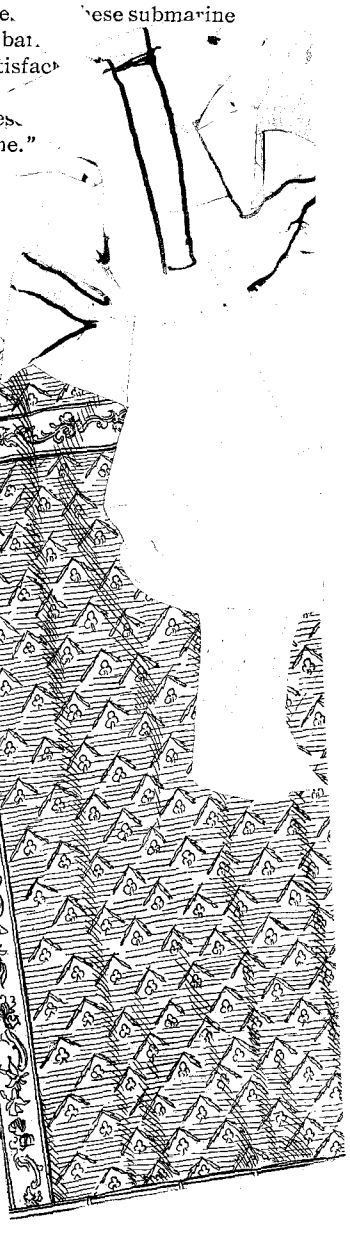
For two hours, says Captain Fuller, General Grant, with his horse most of the time on a gallop, kept the troops on the move, and when he returned, tho he was calm and unruffled himself, his escort were very much fatigued.

A MYSTERIOUS SUB-OCEANIC STREAM.

RECENT investigation into a mysterious breakage of the cable that connects the Senegal coast of Africa with Pernambuco in South America revealed some interesting facts. These are thus related by *Industries and Iron* (London, March 19):

"Usually some well-defined cause has been found to account for the breaking of a cable, but in the present instance Mr. H. Benest, in describing the work of repair, stated that at the locality of the fracture the cable was surrounded by great quantities of vegetable growth, having the appearance of river weed similar to that in the Guadalquiver River. There were also birds' feathers, pieces of orange peel, whole and broken gourds, scraps of carpets, pieces of driftwood, and the like, while the color of the sea changed to a dirty brownish-green, indicative of the presence of fresh river-water. This was local; if it had been a natural flow from a river it would have been traceable to the river, but the nearest stream was seventy-five miles away, and its flow at the point of discharge set in another direction altogether. In the direction of the coast there was no trace of similar flotsam. No recurrence took place at any other point during the four weeks of reconnoitring, and the conclusion was arrived at that this was the discharge—the sudden outburst—of a submarine gulley or stream.

"Sir Henry Mance, the president of the institution [of Electrical Engineers] agreed with this view, and it was further believed that the sea-water filtering through the sea-bottom into a moderately heated portion of the earth caused explosions, upheavals, and an alteration of the features of the surface floor sufficient to break a cable fifty times the usual strength. The broken cable for nearly 900 feet had all the appearance of having surged along or been drawn under some metallic body under great strain. Again, the ores and metals fished up suggested disturbances. The chance of further upheavals resulted in the decision to place the cable out of the reach of the destructive influences; but again, in two years and one month, it broke. It has been repaired, and still further removed, and engineers wait the developments of nature in the mighty deep. There have been many suggestions before of submarine streams—between Mozambique and Zanzibar the cables have in the same way given trouble. Off the Kongo River there is a discharge which has scoured a trench in the bed of the sea; in the Gulf of C[illegible]taria there is a fresh-water well where water can be drawn [illegible] midst of the sea, and, among other instances, there are [illegible]at subterranean rivers of Australia. How this flotsam come[illegible]ese submarine streams is, as is also the place of its embar[illegible] mystery. No conjecture can frame a satisfac[illegible] and the mystery as to the actual natives [illegible] their waste fragments of carpet along thes[illegible] appears likely to last for some years to come."



Millionaires as Engine-Dri[illegible]

exploit in acting as the engineer of a [illegible] cently is but another illustration of the [illegible] a railway locomotive has for rich young [illegible] quire interests in, railroads," says *The Ra[illegible]* Astor has for several years been a direct[illegible] Railroad, and on the previous o[illegible] the engine.' He has a natural t[illegible] of railroading is much like that o[illegible] Adirondacks, Dr. Webb and his[illegible] every native, and his passion for[illegible] rate of speed is regarded with com[illegible] of his road. When a one or two [illegible] mountain region from Old Forge t[illegible] the simple mountaineer will turn p[illegible] and remark: 'Dr. Webb is runnin[illegible] the trackmen, on their morning rou[illegible] hand-car lying at the bottom of the [illegible] eral yards from the track at the edge[illegible] able comment will be: 'The Doctor[illegible] last night.' It is seldom that anybo[illegible] for the Adirondack railroad men ar[illegible] hand-cars. George J. Gould was able [illegible] before he became a railroad president[illegible] genuine sportsman, and enjoys the sens[illegible] making his periodical inspections of [illegible] Southwestern system, President Gould[illegible] locomotive engineer for hours at a time. [illegible] president of the Pennsylvania lines, [illegible] engine' almost as well as any veteran. [illegible] J. Hill, the president of Great Northern[illegible] at home in a cab of a locomotive as they [illegible] of their father's house. S. H. H. Clark, [illegible] Pacific, has taken all of the degrees of r[illegible] 'brake' a train as well as handle the engin[illegible]

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

"The course of general trade shows some improvement, notwithstanding an almost complete stoppage of business in the South Mississippi valley by washouts, overflows, and floods," says *Bradstreet's*. "The markets are still waiting, some sagging downward and others recovering," says *Dun's Review* of the week ending April 3.

"The condition of country roadways throughout central Western States and the Northwest is such as to still further delay collections and check demand from interior merchants. Another drop is recorded in prices of Bessemer pig iron and steel billets, and in wheat, flour, coal, coffee, and lard, which is in part offset by increased activity and higher prices for wool and woollens, for corn, oats, sugar, and petroleum. A heavy movement of fertilizers is reported in the South Atlantic States; interest in lumber and shingles has increased on the Northwest Pacific coast, and Galveston is exporting cattle to Europe direct. The most favorable trade reports are from Northwestern spring wheat States. . . .

"Special reports to *Bradstreet's* from fifty cities, with reference to revival in activity in industrial lines, indicate there are at work at those centers probably not to exceed 100,000 in excess of the number employed in November last. The increases are largely among employees of manufacturers of woolen goods, shoes, clothing, machinery, engines, agricultural implements, bicycles, carriages, furniture, iron, steel, glass, and shipbuilding. Depression still exists among some branches of the woolen-goods industry, in coal-mining, and cotton-goods manufacture."—*Bradstreet's, April 3.*

"There is much disposition to use the decision of the Supreme Court against railroad combinations as an instrument for depressing stocks, and yet the buying has prevented a decline exceeding $1 per share, and for trust stocks 20 cents per share. It is largely a traders' market, and the substantial holders are not throwing stocks overboard, while in spells the European buying has influence. The reports of railroad earnings for the quarter have been somewhat encouraging, the aggregate having been, on roads within the United States only, 3.2 per cent. smaller than last year, and only 9.1 per cent. smaller than in 1893, and the March returns have been rather more favorable than those for January or February."—*Dun's Review, April 3.*

Business Failures for the Quarter.—"There are 4,042 business failures in the United States reported by *Bradstreet's* during the past quarter, compared with 4,512 in the first quarter of 1896, a falling-off of about 11 per cent. The decrease is reported from all sections except New England and the Territories. The larger number of Eastern State failures are small ones, for total liabilities of those failing in the New England States are about 22 per cent. smaller during the past quarter than a year ago. Liabilities of all individuals, firms, and corporations which failed amount to $62,513,000, a falling-off of 16 per cent. from the corresponding total last year."—*Bradstreet's, April 3.*

"Failures reported to-day for the first quarter of 1897 number 3,992 against 4,031 last year, with liabilities of $48,007,911 against $57,425,135 last year. The manufacturing failures are slightly fewer in number and smaller in liabilities than last year, but the trading failures fall a little behind those of the corresponding quarter last year in number and very largely in magnitude. The average of liabilities for all manufacturing returns is only $28,800, while the average of all trading concerns is only $7,810 against $10,080 last year, a decrease which indicates caution in buying and debt-creating."—*Dun's Review, April 3.*

Canadian Conditions.—"There is improvement in demand for dry-goods, hats and caps among Toronto jobbers. Proposed tariff changes in the Dominion continue to affect prices of staples. Montreal jobbers report stocks low and inquiries more frequent. Stocks of staple merchandise are also low, and orders are light at Halifax. Recent unfavorable reports concerning the Newfoundland fishery are confirmed. Clearings at Winnipeg, Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, and Halifax amount to $19,400,000 this week, compared with $17,229,000 the week before and with $16,203,000 in the like week last year. There are 688 business failures reported from the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland during the first quarter of 1897, compared with 785 in the like portion of 1896. The corresponding reduction in liabilities is from $5,773,000 to $4,827,000."—*Bradstreet's, April 3.*

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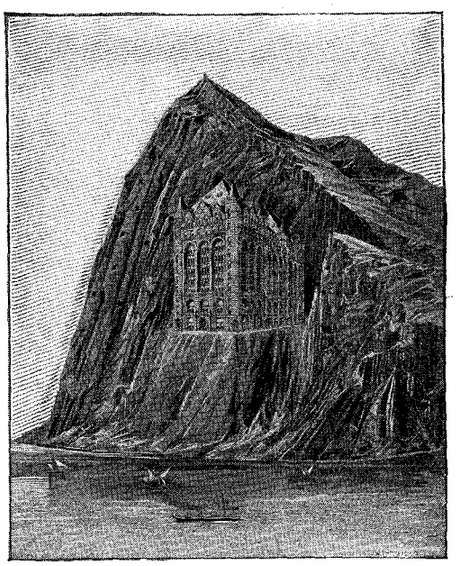

... HAS ..

Assets, $19,541,827

Income, $14,158,445

Surplus, $4,034,116

Insurance in force, $320,453,483

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FIVE YEARS STEADY SWEEP ONWARD

	Dec. 31—1891.	Dec. 31—1896.	Increase in 5 years.
Assets,	$6,889,674	$19,541,827	$12,652,153
Surplus,	1,449,057	4,034,116	2,585,059
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Current Events.

Monday, March 29.

In the Senate resolutions of inquiry are passed regarding forest reservations and civil service. . . . A number of committee amendments to the tariff bill are passed; several Eastern Republicans criticize duties imposed. . . . The President appoints Charlemagne Tower, of Pennsylvania, minister to Austria-Hungary; H. Clay Evans, of Tennessee, Commissioner of Pensions. . . . Joseph Smith, of Ohio, becomes director of the Bureau of American Republics. . . . A large break occurs in the Mississippi levee near Greenville, Miss. . . . Dr. J. J. Luis is sentenced at Baltimore to eighteen months' imprisonment and fined $500 for filibustering. . . . The governor of Colorado approves a bill abolishing capital punishment in the State.

It is reported that General Ruis Rivera, Maceo's successor in Cuba, was captured by the Spaniards on Sunday. . . . Several more members of the French Chamber of Deputies are mentioned as implicated in the Panama scandal, and the prosecution of three deputies was ordered. . . . In the House of Commons dispatches from the British Admiral in Cretan waters are

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read to the effect that Colonel Vassos has declared open war on the powers.

Tuesday, March 30.

Senator Allen speaks on the unconstitutionality of tariff taxes in excess of revenue needs; Mr. Foraker introduces a railway pooling bill; the arbitration treaty is discussed. . . . Thirty-five committee amendments to the tariff bill are adopted by the House, including the admission free of books and apparatus for scientific and educational purposes. . . . The President appoints Frank W. Palmer, of Illinois, public printer. . . . Further breaks in the Mississippi levees add to the danger of the Mississippi delta.

A fight is reported to have taken place already on the Turkish side of the Macedonian frontier. . . . It is rumored in Madrid that General Sanguily would succeed General Rivera as insurgent commander in Pinar del Rio.

Wednesday, March 31.

The Senate begins voting on amendments to the arbitration treaty adopting the reservation except by special agreement of "any difference which in the judgment of either power materially effects its honor or its domestic or foreign policy". . . . The tariff bill, amended to take effect April 1, is passed by the House by a vote of 205 to 122, not voting 21. . . . The New York State Assembly passes Controller Roberts' graduated inheritance tax bill without opposition. . . . The American members of the International Marine Conference meet in Washington. . . . More breaks occur in the Mississippi levee: the President signs a joint resolution appropriating $250,000 for protection of life and property. . . . Reports of a tornado in Oklahoma state that the town of Chandler is demolished, 45 people killed and 150 wounded.

It is announced in Berlin and Paris that a partial blockade of the Greek ports would begin at an early date. . . . President Krüger of the Transvaal suspends his grandson, Eloff, from office for making a speech in which he insulted Queen Victoria and Great Britain.

Thursday, April 1.

The Senate, alone in session, disposes of all arbitration treaty amendments; Cuban resolutions are considered; the tariff bill is referred to the finance committee. . . . President McKinley nominates Andrew D. White (New York) and Wm. Draper (Massachusetts) to be ambassadors to Germany and Italy; Benjamin Butterworth (Ohio) commissioner of patents. . . . The flood situation above Greenville, Miss., is better; it is estimated that 300 towns are now under water. . . . Government receipts for March are reported as $36,217,662, expenditures $27,212,997, surplus $9,004,665, due to increase in customs. . . . Officers of western railways indorse the establishment of a "bureau of statistics and information."

All the powers consent to a blockade of the Gulf of Athens; King George announces that a declaration of war will follow the enforcement of the blockade.

Friday, April 2.

McKinley's cabinet discusses Mr. Cleveland's order establishing new forest reserves. . . . An ore pool, excluding Carnegie and Rockefeller, is said to have been formedby Gogebic range producers. . . . Major-General T. A. Ruger retires from command of the military department of the East; Brigadier-General Wheaton succeeds him.

The efficient manner in which the Turkish forces were mobilized on the Greek frontier is said to be due to German officers. . . . The Austrian cabinet resigns. . . . It is reported in in Madrid that General Maximo Gomez is suing for peace in Cuba, . . . Mr. Labouchere denounced the inquiry before the South African committee as a farce.

Saturday, April 3.

The House meets to pass a resolution authorizing the charter of a vessel to carry food to India. . . . It is said that the arbitration treaty is to be laid aside for the present. . . . The flood situation does not improve. . . . The governor of Wisconsin signs an anti-trust bill.

Mr. Curzon, in a speech in Lancashire, England, replies to attacks on the British Government's Cretan policy, and refers to the arbitration treaty; M. Hanotaux, French minister of foreign affairs, makes an optimistic statement regarding the Cretan situation. . . . Johannes Brahms, the well-known musical composer, dies in Vienna. . . . A motion to repeal the Jesuit exclusion law passes third reading in the Reichstag at Berlin. . . . The Oxford crew won the university boat-race on the Thames, defeating Cambridge by two lengths, in 19 minutes, 12 seconds.

Sunday, April 4.

Damaging floods continue in the Northwest; two more breaks occur in levees near Tunica, Miss., and Helena, Ark.; the situation is critical. It is said that the forestry commission has been summoned to Washington.

A St. Petersburg semi-official organ announces that the blockade of Greece will begin on April 6; in Crete the foreign forces are disarming the Bashi-Bazouks. . . . Ramsay, the American sailor, is released from prison in Peru. . . . Beneficial rains occur in India, and prices are falling. . . . Emperor Francis Joseph refuses to accept the resignation of the Austrian ministry.

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On the back cover page of this issue of THE LITERARY DIGEST will be found an advertisement of interest to all who contemplate getting a piano or organ.

Messrs. Cornish & Co. have invested in their Piano and Organ plant and buildings over a million dollars: they employ 400 hands and their pay-roll often averages over $20,000 per month, and they have an unsullied business record of 35 years. You can obtain a very handsome set of souvenir catalogs and other interesting matter by writing to Messrs. Cornish & Co., who will forward them, and any information desired, free for the asking, and if you live within a reasonable distance from Washington, N. J., and wish to visit the factory and make a personal selection of a Piano or an Organ, Messrs. Cornish & Co. will not only welcome you and entertain you whilst you are with them, but wil cheerfully pay your return car-fare.

We advise all interested persons to read the special advertisement of Messrs. Cornish & Co., which appears in this paper and to communicate with them at once. Address, Cornish & Co., Makers of American Pianos and Organs, Washington, N. J.

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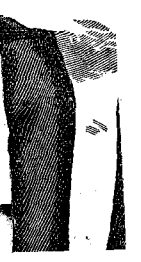

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PERSONALITIES.

THE Rt. Rev. Alphone Joosten, Vicar Apostolic and Bishop of the Dutch West Indies, is the first clergyman of episcopal rank to succumb to leprosy, with which he became infected while administering religious instruction and consolation to leprous adults and children at Curaçoa. His name deserves to figure beside that of Father Damien on the table of honor of those who have sacrificed their lives in behalf of leper outcasts.—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

EVEN to-day Joseph Chamberlain retains his youthful looks. When he was a member of Mr. Gladstone's administration, says the Chicago *Inter Ocean*, he had occasion to cross the Irish Sea on a day when the steamer was over crowded, and there were not berths for all. He was attended by a private secretary with a beard, who picked acquaintance with a Scotchman. The latter made a suggestion for the distribution of the party on the principle of age before honors. "You and I, mon," he said, "will occupy the berths, and the wee laddie"—indicating the distinguished statesman—"can just lie himself down on the floor."

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, when American minister to England, is said to have taken great delight in meeting the plain, honest, and unpretending American farmer, taking him about and presenting him as a representative American. But cheap, vulgar, and socially enterprising Americans were a continual trial to him. "The Spectator," of *The Outlook*, tells how Mr. Lowell humorously described his experiences with the wife of an American Senator who was determined to be presented at court, and whose lack of fitness for that function was only too obvious to one who was supposed to protect the Queen from underbred and vulgar persons. The woman was noisy, illiterate, and socially impossible; but she was the wife of a Senator, and she was pertinacious, unscrupulous, and pushing. There came a time when the minister, worn out with her importunities, was about to capitulate; in that hour of weakness, however, he chanced, in a hotel reception-room, to overhear his persecutor say to a friend, regarding a dressmaker's bill which had just come in, "When I see the size of that bill I just lay back and yelled." The lady was not presented.

THE PRESIDENT AS A MATCH-MAKER.—The President has shown a great interest in the love affairs of a young man from Ohio, and has taken a rôle in a romance which does credit both to his heart and head. The young man referred to may be called Jones for purposes of identification, and he may be located at Cincinnati, altho he has a different name and lives in another place. Shortly before the inauguration Jones called on the President at Canton to pay his respects, and to his embarrassment Major McKinley inquired how he was getting on with his love affair. Jones dodged the question, but the major pinned him down, and finally extracted from his reluctant lips a confession that he had not been able to persuade the young lady in the case to accept his heart and hand, altho he yet hoped to do so. Jones explained that his prospects were not very alluring, and that love in a cottage had no attractions for the young lady he desired for his wife.

"Do you think she would like to live abroad for a little while?" asked the President.

"I wouldn't wonder," said Jones. "Altho I have never discussed that subject with her, I imagine she is like most young ladies, and that she would enjoy seeing foreign lands."

"Well," said Major McKinley, "if you think it will do any good, you tell her that I will give you a consular appointment as a wedding present. Pick out eight or ten places in Europe that you think would suit her, and when I take up consular matters I will nominate you for one of them."

Jones thanked Major McKinley warmly, and has since informed him that he is to be married early in June.—*Washington Correspondence, New York Trlbune.*

NEAL DOW'S HEROIC CHARACTER.—Neal Dow was once passing down one of the streets of Portland, Me., when he noticed a crowd of people, among whom was the mayor of the city. In the center of the group was a country lad, crying. The lad had been imposed upon by a noted horse jockey of the town, who had got the boy drunk, and then induced him to swap the horse he had driven into town for an old plug.

Upon hearing his story, telling the boy to follow him, and lead the jockey's horse. Mr. Dow led the way to the latter's stable, nearly a mile distant. Not finding the jockey in, the old horse was turned into the stable, and Mr. Dow, with the country lad still following, turned to go downtown again. On the way they met the jockey, driving in a wagon to which the lad's horse was attached.

"That's my horse," said the boy.

Mr. Dow stepped into the road, took the horse by the bridle, and calling to one of his employees who happened to be passing at the time, told him to unharness the horse, which he did, the irate jockey swearing like a trooper, and threatening to take the law on Mr. Dow, who replied:

"You will always know where to find me."

Then telling the boy to take the horse, he started to lead the way down-town where the lad's wagon had been left.

"Look a-here," said the jockey, as they went, "what am I to do with my wagon?"

"Do what you like," said Mr. Dow. "It is nothing to me."

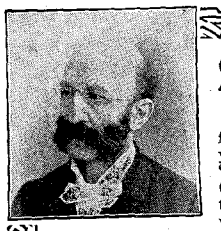
As may be expected, the country lad was full of joy and profuse with thanks.

When he had harnessed his horse, he said to Mr. Dow:

"Now, what can I do for you?"

"Promise me not to drink any more." And the boy did so.

Some three years afterward Neal Dow was stopped by a countryman in the streets who, with mouth stretched on a broad grin, said, pointing to a horse, "There he is. I hain't drunk no more."—*Dr. L. A. Banks, in The Christian Herald, New York.*



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Medical Science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma in every form in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanical discovery found on the Kongo River, West Africa. Its cures are really marvelous. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, W. Va., writes that it cured him of Asthma of fifty years' standing, and Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, testifies that for three years he had to sleep propped up in a chair, being unable to lie down night or day from Asthma. The Kola Plant cured him at once. To make the matter sure, these and hundreds of other cures are sworn to before a notary public. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, the Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Asthma. All they ask in return is that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. Send your name and address on a postal card, and they will send you a large case by mail free. It costs you nothing, and you should surely try it.

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CHESS.

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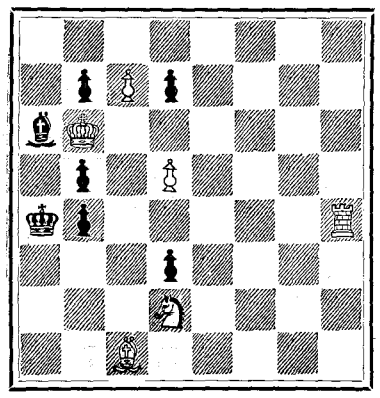
Problem 195.

BY ZECKENDORF, IN *the New York Sun*.

Black—Seven Pieces.

K on Q R 5; B on Q R 3; Ps on Q 2 and 6; Q Kt 2, 4, and 5.



White—Six Pieces.

K on Q Kt 6; B on Q B sq; Kt on Q 2; R on K R 4; Ps on Q 5, Q B 7.

White mates in three moves.

Problem 196.

From *The Glasgow Herald*.

Black—One Piece: K on K Kt sq.

White—Four Pieces: K on K R 6; Kt on Q 7; R on K 7; P on K Kt 4.

White mates in five moves *with the Pawn*.

Solution of Problems.

No. 192.

1. Q—Kt 5 / K x R	2. Kt(Kt4)-B6 ch / P x Kt must	3. Kt x P, mate	
1. ..... / K—Q 3	2. Q—B 6 ch / K—B 2 or 4	3. Q—Kt 6, mate	
1. ..... / Q x R	2. Q—K 7 ch / P—Q 3 must	3. Q—Q B 7, mate	
1. ..... / Q x B	2. R x Q P ch / K x Kt must	3. R—Kt 5! mate	
1. ..... / R x Q	2. R x Q P ch! / Q x R ch must	3. Kt-B6, dis ch, mate !!!	

These are the important variations.

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia, who says that the last variation given above is "unsurpassable"; V. Brent, New Orleans; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; the Rev. H. W. Temple, Washington, Pa.; C. F. Putney, Independence, Ia.; N. Hald, Dannebrog, Neb.; Dr. J. B. Trowbridge, Hayward, Wis.; R. D. Tompkins, Hillside, Mo.; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Ia. Only nine out of the large number of those who tried this problem! This is to be accounted for from the fact that those who sent Q—B 3 or P—Kt 3 did not see Black's answer Q—Q 3. M. W. H. writes: "I was ready, at one time, to delare it absolutely insoluble. It seemed to me that the Black K could not be headed off from Q 3, etc.

Chas. W. Cooper, Allegheny, Pa., sends correct solution of 190.

The Rev. H W. Temple, and F. B. Osgood, North Conway, N. H., were successful with 191.

Laskerisms.

(From *Common Sense in Chess.*)

"The losing side had the greater part of his army in positions where they had no bearing whatever upon the questions at issue. They might have been just as well anywhere else but on the board."

"The real business of development ought to be accomplished in no more than six separate moves devoted to that purpose."

In the Ruy Lopez, "3 .., Kt K B 3 yields, in all respects, a satisfactory game to the second player."

"I declare that Black, by choosing the defense (3) .., P—Q R 3 to the Ruy Lopez, unnecessarily damages his Q-side Pawns, while the development of his pieces gives him no compensation for that disadvantage."

"As a general rule it is not good policy to exchange in the early stages of a game the long-reaching Bishop against the Knight, whose power does not extend beyond a certain circle."

"The attack is that process by means of which you remove obstructions."

"Don't attack unless you have some tangible superiority, either in the stronger working of your pieces, or in longer reach."

"The object of your opponent's attack is, generally speaking, to change the position of your men in a certain quarter by force. *Abstain from changing it voluntarily, except* for most forcible reasons. This is where most Chess-players fail."

The United States Championship Match.

At the time of going to press the score is as follows: Pillsbury, 7; Showalter, 6; Draws, 3.

SIXTH GAME.

Ruy Lopez.

SHOWALTER. *White.*	PILLSBURY. *Black.*	SHOWALTER. *White.*	PILLSBURY. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	36 R (K2)-K7	R—K Kt5 (l)
2 Kt—K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	37 P—R 3	R—Kt 4
3 B—Kt 5	Kt—B 3	38 K—B 2	P—R 4
4 Castles	Kt x P	39 R—R 8	R—Q 3 (m)
5 P—Q 4	Kt—Q 3	40 R(R7)-K 8	K—Kt 3 (n)
6 B—R 4 (a)	P—K 5	41 R—K 7	B—B 7
7 R—K sq	B—K 2	42 R(R8)-R7	K—B 4 (o)
8 Kt—K 5	Castles	43 P—R 4	R—Kt 3 (p)
9 Kt—Q B 3	Kt—B 4	44 P—Kt 3	K—Kt 5
10 B—K 3 (b)	Kt x Kt	45 R (R7)-Q7	R x R (q)
11 P x Kt	P—Q 3	46 B x R ch	P—B 4
12 B—B 4 (c)	P—K 6 (d)	47 K—Kt 2(r)	B—Q 6
13 B P x P	P x P	48 B—K 8	B—B 8 ch
14 B x P	Q x Q (e)	49 K x B	R—Kt 3
15 Q R x Q	B—B 4	50 R x P ch	K—B 6 (s)
16 B—Q 4	Kt x B	51 B x P ch	K—K 5
17 P x Kt	B—Kt 5	52 R—Q 7	P—B 5
18 P—Q R 3	B x Kt	53 P x P	K x P
19 P x B	B—Kt 5 (f)	54 K—K 2	R—Kt 7 ch
20 R—Kt sq	P—Q Kt 3 (g)	55 K—Q 3	R—K R 7
21 B—B 6	Q R-Kt sq (h)	56 R—K 7	K—B 4
22 R—K 7	K R—B sq	57 P—Q 6	R—R 6 ch
23 R-K Bsq (i)	P—B 3	58 K—B 2	R x P
24 B—Q 5 ch	K—R sq	59 P—Q 7	R—Q 5
25 R (Bsq)-K sq	P—Q B 4	60 K—B 3	R—Q 3
		61 B—K 8 (t)	K—B 3
26 B—Kt 7	R—Q sq	62 R—K 3	R—B 3 ch
27 P—Q 5	P—K R 3	63 K—Kt 4	R—Q 3 (u)
28 P—B 4	B—B 4	64 K—B 5	R—Q 8
29 R(Ksq)-K2	K—R 2	65 R—K 4	R—B 8 ch
30 B—B 6	P—R 3	66 R—B 4	R—Q 8
31 R—R 7 (k)	P—Q Kt 4	67 R—Q 4	R x R
32 P x P	P x P	68 K x R	K—K 2
33 P—B 3	P—Kt 5	69 K—B 5	K—Q sq
34 R P x P	P x P	70 K-Kt 6 (v)	Resigns.
35 P x P	R x P		

Notes by Emil Kemeny in The Ledger, Philadelphia.

(a) To the fourth game of the match Mr. Showalter played R—K sq; Kt x P followed by B—K Kt 5, which resulted in the loss of a Pawn without adequate advantage in position. The continuation adopted in the present contest is a much superior one and gives White the preferable game.

(b) White could not well play R x P on account of Black's reply Kt (B 4) x Q P. If then R x Kt Black answers Kt x Kt.

(c) Superior to P x P, which would have relieved Black's game. The latter would have answered B x P, and if Kt x K P then B x R P ch followed by Q—R 5 ch and Q x Kt.

(d) Black is unable to maintain the Pawn, and for that reason the text play is probably the best. White being obliged to capture with Pawn, will obstruct his open K file and the K P remains isolated.

(e) Black could not well play B—K 3 on account of Q—B 3 followed by Q R—Q sq. He might, however, have moved B—Q 3, which probably was superior to Q x Q. White then had hardly any better play than B x B, and Black by answering Kt x B followed by Q—K 2 could have fairly neutralized White's attack.

(f) Black had no better play; there was no way of preventing White from R—K 7 play, since Black could not move B—R 3 on account of P—Q 4 reply. A close examination will prove that Black's game was inferior, if not hopeless already.

(g) R—Kt sq could hardly be played, for if White continues R—K 7 he will win either B P or Kt P.

(h) Necessary, so as to prevent White from B—Kt 7 after R—K 7 has been played.

(i) B—Q 5 would have pretty nearly forced Black to play B—K 3, sacrificing the K B P, yet it is doubtful whether White could have forced a win on account of his double Pawn. R—K B sq as played seems much superior.

(k) White should have played P-[illegible] to prevent Black from P—Q Kt 4, [illegible]ting it he gave Black a cha[illegible] Queen's wing. Had White pla[illegible] followed by R—R 7, Black wo[illegible] obliged to answer P—Q R 4, and th[illegible] have become extremely weak.

(l) He could hardly play R—Kt sq, for P—Q 6 followed by B-Q 5 might have become threatening.

(m) Had Black exchanged Rooks he could not have stopped the advance of the Q P.

(n) If there was a chance of escape for Black, it rested with B—Q 2 move. White then hardly could continue otherwise than R—Q 8, and Black answers R (Kt 4) x Q P, sacrificing the exchange for the Q P.

(o) K—R 2 or K—R 3 was proper. Black, with his present move, enters a combination which proves disastrous. He intends to give up the Kt P in order to gain the Q P. He overlooked that his King as well as his Rook at Kt 4 will become entangled. He will subsequently lose an exchange or piece to escape a mate.

(p) R—Kt 5 could not be played on account of B—Q 7 ch winning the exchange.

(q) P—B 4 was not better. White would have continued R x R, followed by R x P ch.

(r) A splendid move, which forces Black to play B—Q 6, followed by the sacrifice of the B. White threatened B—K 8 winning the Rook.

(s) Better than K—R 6, tho it gives up an additional Pawn. But this is the only way to temporarily stop the advance of White's Q P.

(t) B—Kt 4 ch would have won quicker had Black answered K x B, then R—K 4 ch followed R—Q 4. Should Black have played K—B 3, then R—K 8 would have won at once.

(u) R—R 4 would have won quicker. White then could play R—B 4 should Black check at B 3.

(v) Of course, K—Q 6 would have stalemated. The move made or K—B 6 forces Black to surrender. He must play K—K 2, and White continues K—B 7, followed by Queening of the Pawn.

The World's Championship Match.

SIXTEENTH GAME.

Ruy Lopez.

LASKER. *White.*	STEINITZ. *Black.*	LASKER. *White.*	STEINITZ. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	22 Kt—Kt sq	P—Q B 4
2 Kt—K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	23 Kt—K 2	Q—R 7
3 B—Kt 5	P—Q R 3	24 P—K B 4	Kt—B 3
4 B—R 4	P—Q 3	25 B x P	R x P
5 P—Q 4	B—Q 2	26 Q Kt—B 3	P x Kt
6 B—Kt 3	P x P	27 Kt x P	Q x Kt P
7 Kt x P	Kt—B 3	28 Kt x R	Q x B P
8 Kt—B 3	B—K 2	29 Kt—B 6 ch	K—R sq
9 K Kt-K 2	Kt—Q R 4	30 Kt x B	P x B
10 Castles	Castles	31 Q—B 3	R—Q B sq
11 P—B 3	R—K sq	32 Kt—K 5	Kt x Kt
12 B—K 3	B—B sq	33 P x Kt	P—B 5
13 Q—Q 2	Kt x B	34 P x P	Q x P
14 R P x Kt	B—K 3	35 K—R sq	P—Q R 4
15 Kt—B 4	Kt—Q 2	36 R—Q 7	P—R 5
16 Q R—Q sq	P—Q B 3	37 Q R x B P	B—Kt 5
17 Q—B 2	Q—R 4	38 R—B 4	Q—B 4
18 Q—Kt 2	Kt—K 4	39 Q—Kt 4	B—R 6
19 K Kt—K 2	B—Q 2	40 R x P	R—K sq
20 Kt—Q 4	P—Q Kt 4	41 Q—B 3	B—Kt 7
21 P—R 3	P—Kt 5	42 R—R 8	Resigns.

Chess-Nuts.

Another match by telegraph is promised. This time between Champion Lasker and Tschigorin the Russian master. The stake is £150 a side. Ten games to be played.

The word "gambit" is derived from the Italian *dare la gambetta*, meaning literally "giving the leg," or tripping one up. It is applied to openings where White sacrifices a Pawn early in the game to get the attack or to bring about a a rapid development. In the Evans Gamblt, White gives up his Q Kt P on his fourth move. In the Queen's Gambit, he offers his Q B P on the second move. The Evans is usually accepted. The Queen's Gambit is almost always declined.

The *Deutsche Schachzeitung* gives the following interesting summary of all the games played in tourneys and matches by the five greatest experts:

	Tourneys. W.	L.	D.	*Matches* W.	L.	D	*Total.* W.	L.	D.	*Percent. of Wins.*
Lasker. :....	68	13	22	51	11	24	119	34	46	75.13
Steinitz	149	49	42	139	70	57	288	118	99	66.83
Tarrasch...	97	36	41	16	9	5	113	45	46	66.66
Pillsbury...	54	29	18	..	..	..	54	29	18	62.38
Tschigorin.	103	63	25	46	45	17	149	108	42	56.83

The editor of *The British Chess Magazine* accounts for Tschigorin's low percentage by the fact that the Russian "encountered a larger number of the strongest players than the other masters met in their contests."

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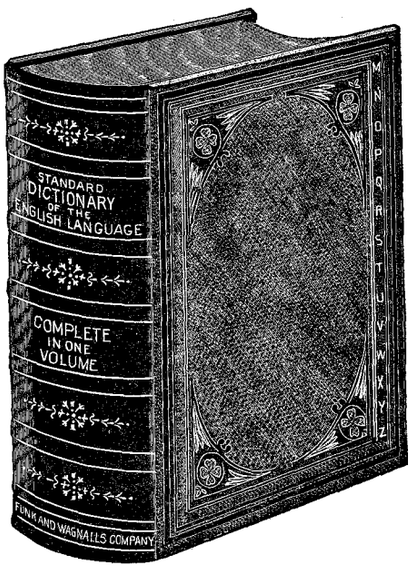

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THE STANDARD, London, says: "Comparisons may be odious, but when a work of reference is concerned they are inevitable. The Standard Dictionary, in its wealth of vocabulary, *leaves even the Century far behind;* and not only in comprehensiveness, but in exactitude of definition its merits are unquestionable."

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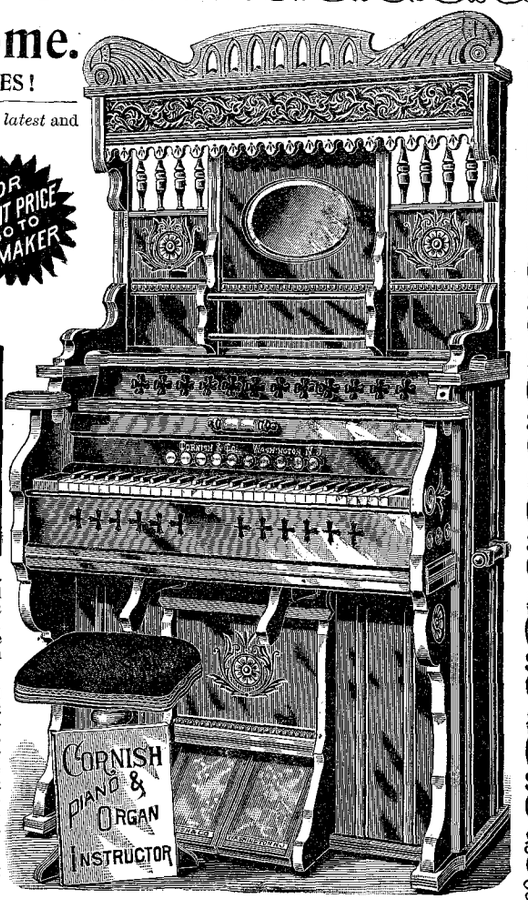

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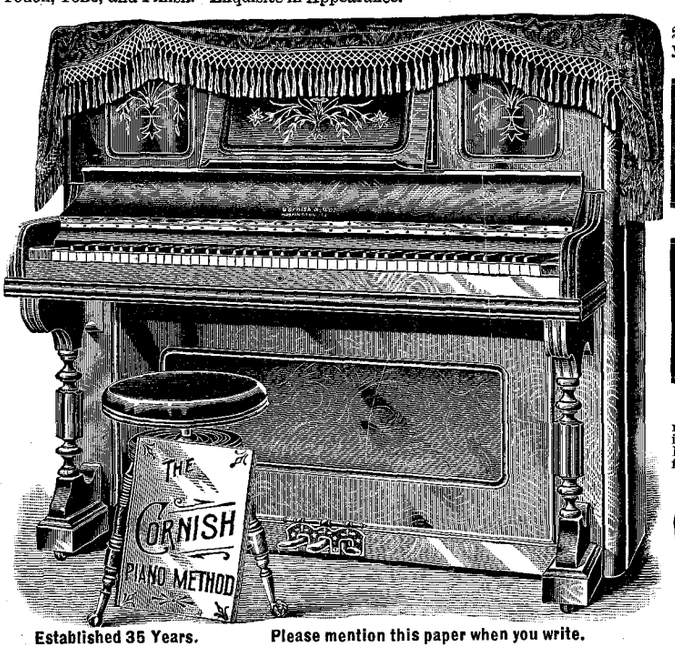

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